THE

BRITISH CRITIC,

For JUNE, 1802.

Curandum ut placeas tantum doctiſque, boniſque,
Summa quidem laus eſt diſplicuiſſe malis.
ANT. PANORM.

Let but the learn'd and good approve your ways,
The cenſures of the bad are ſolid praiſe.

ART. I. *An Account of a Geographical and Aſtronomical Expedition to the Northern Parts of Ruſſia, for aſcertaining the Degrees of Latitude and Longitude of the Mouth of the River Korima, of the whole Coaſt of the Tſhutſki, to the Eaſt Cape, and of the Iſlands in the Eaſtern Ocean, ſtretching to the American Coaſt. Performed by Command of her Imperial Majeſty, Catherine the Second, Empreſs of all the Ruſſias, by Joſeph Billings, in the Years* 1785 *to* 1794. *The Whole narrated from the Original Papers by Martin Sauer, Secretary to the Expedition.* 4to. 2l. 2s. Cadell and Davies. 1802.

WHEN we conſider the prodigious ſpace over which this gentleman has travelled, and through regions, many of which are very imperfectly known, the firſt matter of ſurpriſe ſeems to be, that he ſhould be able to compreſs ſo vaſt a maſs of matter within ſo ſmall a compaſs. Had he been at all verſed in the art of book-making, or had he communicated and confided his materials to thoſe who are ſo, we might eaſily have had three vaſt quartos inſtead of one. Satisfied, however, with giving a ſimple and perſpicuous narrative of what he actually ſaw, he has diſdained all embelliſhments whatſoever, has

introduced no extraneous matter of any kind, but tells his unvarniſhed tale like a man, who would rather promote uſefulneſs from his accuracy, than mere amuſement from the novelty, or admiration from the wonders, of his deſcriptions.

The portion of his travels which Mr. Sauer has more immediately ſelected for the amuſement and information of his readers, is from Ochotſk north to Zaſhiverſk and the Indigirka river, thence direct eaſt to the river Kovima, down which he proceeded to the Icy Sea. Returning up the Kovima, and thence by another route to Ochotſk, the travellers croſſed the ſea of Ochotſk to Kamtſchatka, and thence among the Aleutan Iſlands they proceeded to Oonalaſhka. From Oonalaſhka they paſſed to the north-weſt coaſt of America, and explored the iſland of Kodick, and the various iſlands and bays of Prince William's Sound. They again returned to Oonalaſhka, and, paſſing St. George's Channel, St. Paul's, Gore's Iſland, Clerk's Iſland, &c. they touched at Point Rodney, on the American coaſt, and croſſed Baring's Straits to the Bay of St. Lawrence, in the country of the Tſhutſki. Here they ſeparated; Commodore Billings, with a ſelect party, proceeded over land through a region totally unexplored and unknown, and after ſurpriſing difficulties, and almoſt incredible hardſhips, found his way to the Kovima. Mr. Sauer, the author of this narrative, returned by ſea with his companions, through the path of their former voyage, to St. Peter and St. Paul at Kamtſchatka.

As we have thus, with ſome degree of minuteneſs, pointed out the track purſued by the author, the reader may form a tolerable idea of the entertainment he may reaſonably expect. The above track, however, is that only which Mr. Sauer has exhibited in his chart. He traverſed no ſmall ſpace, which is not there deſignated. The journey from Peterſburgh to Irkutſk, from Irkutſk down the great river Lena to Yakutſk, and from Yakutſk to Ochotſk, comprehends a diſtance which of itſelf might ſatisfy any common traveller, and would alone have afforded materials for a large and intereſting volume. This, however, is very modeſtly paſſed over in leſs than forty pages. We cannot help wiſhing that the traveller would again examine his papers, as a very large portion of this ſpace has never been deſcribed, and is very imperfectly known. The region in particular from Irkutſk to the confines of China is worthy of remark; and we have heard ſome indiſtinct account of a large migration of people from the Ruſſian to the Chineſe empire, diſtinguiſhed by very peculiar manners as well as language, concerning whom we could wiſh

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to have ſome determinate communication, which, if we are not miſtaken, Mr. Sauer is able to give.

As Ochotſk is the principal place from whence all the excurſions of the travellers commenced, the following ſhort account of it may be acceptable to the reader.

" The city of Ochotſk is in latitude 59° 19′ 45″, longitude 145° 16′; built on a neck of land five verſts long, and from 15 to 150 fathom wide, and its direction due eaſt. It is chiefly compoſed of ſand, ſhingles, and drift wood, the whole thrown up by the ſurf. The ſea bounds it to the ſouth, the river Ochot to the north, and its eſtuary terminates the neck of land. The town occupies the ſpace of about one verſt in length, contains 132 miſerable wooden houſes; a church and belfry; ſeveral rotten ſtorehouſes; and a double row of ſhops, badly ſtocked with handkerchiefs, ſilks, cloth, leather, and very bad trinkets; hams, butter, flour, rice, &c.

" The air is unwholeſome in the extreme, as fogs, miſts, and chilling winds, conſtantly prevail, which ſo much affect the products of the earth, that nothing grows within five verſts of the ſea. Here ſtunted and withered larch-trees commence ſcantily; they thicken at 10 verſts; at 15 verſts a ridge of inconſiderable mountains are croſſed, which ſeem to ſtop the effects of the ſea air; for trees become more ſizeable, meadows not unfrequent; and a few indigent Yakuti live hereabouts, with a very ſmall number of horſes and cows, chiefly belonging to the inhabitants of Ochotſk; who, except two prieſts, and the officers of the courts of juſtice, conſiſt of ſailors, Coſſacks, and their families, the moſt drunken ſet I ever ſaw; but, even in their exceſſes, obedient, and never inſulting to their ſuperiors. The ſcurvy rages here with great violence, owing, perhaps, as much to want of attention and cleanlineſs in the inhabitants, as to the climate.

" Fiſh is the chief food; but the finny tribe appear late, the firſt glut of ſalmon aſcending the rivers at the latter end of June. Both men and women are employed in the fiſhery, which they practiſe with a net about 20 feet long, and three or four broad; one part ſunk with ſtones, while the other is kept afloat by pieces of the bark of poplar. The net is puſhed into the river, by means of a long pole, while the fiſher ſtands on the beach. One perſon ſometimes has three nets, and catches during a tide from eight to twelve hundred. When fiſhing is over, they ſit down on the beach, ſplit the fiſh, and hang them up to dry for a winter's ſtock for themſelves and their dogs, which are uſed for draft, and each houſeholder on an average keeps twenty.

" Every ſpring is a time of ſcarcity of proviſions; the dogs then become ſo ravenous, that it is not uncommon for them to deſtroy one another; and the firſt horſes that arrive are generally torn to pieces.

" On our arrival, we dined with Mr. Saretcheff on cold roaſt beef, which taſted ſo fiſhy, that we thought it had been baſted with train oil. In the afternoon we drank tea at the Commandant's: this alſo taſted of fiſh; and when I mentioned it to our hoſt, he recommended the next cup without cream, which was very good. He told me, that the cattle had been fed for the laſt ten weeks entirely upon the offals of fiſh, and that the cows preferred dried ſalmon to hay.

" The harbour is formed by the river Ochot, flowing from the weſt and north-weſt into the ſpacious Bay of Kuchtui, 14 verſts long, and about four wide; ſhallow, and more than three-fourths dry at low water. A river that gives name to the bay falls into its north-eaſtern extremity under the Mariakan mountains. Theſe two rapid torrents, at their junction, are continually ſporting with the banks, removing ſome, enlarging others, and throwing up new ones: the beds of the rivers are compoſed of looſe pebbles, from about the ſize of a pigeon's egg to that of a ſwan's. The main channel of the Ochot is only navigable for ſmall empty veſſels one mile upwards; for in many places the depth is only one-half to two and a half feet, or ſix to eight feet at high water.

" The communication with the ſea has the appearance of an artificial cut 250 fathom wide, about 150 long, in a direction due ſouth, and from ſix to ſeven fathom deep: the current three to five knots rippling. The ſudden check that the ſtream receives from the ſea is the cauſe of a bank in the form of a creſcent, ſouth ſouth-weſt, and weſt, the diſtance of a mile and half out: a bar continues to extend weſtward, leaving a channel five feet deep at low water only, 30 fathom wide, but frequently ſhifting; and this is the only navigable paſſage. A very violent ſurf conſtantly breaks over the bar, and all along the ſhore. At the time of the equinoctial gales, the ſpray wets the houſes of the town, and ſeems to threaten the deſtruction of the whole place. Shoal water continues out to ſea; and at the diſtance of eight miles, the depth is only 10 fathom, with a bottom of looſe ſtones, not compact enough to hold an anchor againſt even a moderate breeze of wind.

" Such is the picture of a place where we purpoſe building two ſhips of 260 to 300 tons burthen!" P. 40.

The fifth Chapter, which contains an account of Mr. Sauer's expedition from Ochotſk to Zaſhiverſk, and thence to the Kovima, introduces us to the Tungooſe, and acquaints us with the author's mode of travelling on a rein-deer.

" Having with me the ſhip-builder and my ſervant, at three P. M. I left the party, mounted on a beautiful young rein-deer; the ſaddle placed on its ſhoulders, without ſtirrups; no bridle, but a leather thong about five fathom long tied round the head of the deer; this is kept in the rider's left hand, that he may prevent its eſcape if he falls, and, when refreſhing, have a little ſcope to ſelect its food. A ſtrong ſtick about five feet long aſſiſts the rider to mount; though the Tungooſe, for this purpoſe, uſe their bow; ſtanding on the right ſide of the deer, they put the left leg upon the ſaddle, lean on the ſtick with the right hand, and ſpring up with aſtoniſhing apparent eaſe: we, however, could not effect it by any means without aſſiſtance; and, during about three hours travelling, I dare ſay that we fell near twenty times. The top of the ſaddle is ſquare and flat, projecting a few inches over the ſides of the deer; the ſeat is ſecured by drawing up the calves of the legs toward the thighs, and clinging faſt to the projecting parts of the ſaddle, which at firſt cauſes aſtoniſhing pain to the thighs: by the

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third day, however, I became a very expert rider; the ſhipbuilder could not manage it at all, and went for the moſt part on foot; of courſe my travelling was not very expeditious." P. 44.

The deſcription of this people alſo is curious.

"The Tungooſe wander over an amazing extent of ground, from the mouth of the Amour to the Baikal Lake, the rivers Angara, or Tungooſka, Lena, Aldan, Yudoma, Mayo, Ud, the ſea coaſt of Ochotſk, the Amicon, Kovima, Indigirka, Alaſey, the coaſt of the Icy Sea, and all the mountains of theſe parts; conſtantly on the look-out for animals of the chaſe. They ſeldom reſide more than ſix days in one place, but remove their tents, though it be to the ſmall diſtance of 20 fathom, and this only in the fiſhing ſeaſon, and during the time of collecting berries in ſuch ſolitary places as are far diſtant from the habitations of Coſſacs. Here they leave their ſupplies of dried fiſh and berries, in large boxes built on trees or poles, for the benefit of themſelves and their tribes in travelling during the winter. Berries they dry by mixing them with the undigeſted food *(lichen)* out of the ſtomach of the rein-deer, making thin cakes, which they ſpread on the bark of trees, and dry upon their huts in the ſun or wind.

"They ſeem callous to the effects of heat or cold; their tents are covered with ſhamoy, or the inner bark of the birch, which they render as pliable as leather, by rolling it up, and keeping it for ſome time in the ſteam of boiling water and ſmoke.

"Their winter dreſs is the ſkin of the deer, or wild ſheep, dreſſed with the hair on; a breaſt-piece of the ſame, which ties round the neck, and reaches down to the waiſt, widening towards the bottom, and neatly ornamented with embroidery and beads; pantaloons of the ſame materials, which alſo furniſh them with ſhort ſtockings, and boots of the legs of rein-deer with the hair outward; a fur cap and gloves. Their ſummer dreſs only differs in being ſimple leather without the hair.

"They obtain ſupplies of food from the Ruſſian inhabitants of the Amicon, Indigirka, Uyandina, Alaſey, Kovima, Zaſhiverſk, Ochotſk, &c. They are religious obſervers of their word, punctual and exact in traffic; ſome few are chriſtened; but the greater part are Demonolatrians, have their ſorcerers, and ſacrifice chiefly to evil ſpirits.

"An unchriſtened Tungooſe went into one of the churches at Yakutſk, placed himſelf before the painting of Saint Nicholas, bowed very reſpectfully, and laid down a number of rich ſkins, conſiſting of black and red foxes, ſables, ſquirrels, &c. which he took out of a bag. On being aſked why he did ſo, he replied, "My brother, who is chriſtened, was ſo ill, that we expected his death. He called upon Saint Nicholas, but would have no ſorcerer. I promiſed, that if Nicholas would let him live, I would give him what I caught in my firſt chaſe. My brother recovered, I obtained theſe ſkins, and there they are." He then bowed again, and retired.

"They commonly hunt with the bow and arrow, but ſome have rifle-barreled guns. They do not like to bury their dead, but place the body, dreſſed in its beſt apparel, in a ſtrong box, and ſuſpend it between two trees. The implements of the chaſe belonging to the deceaſed

deceaſed are buried under the box. Except a ſorcerer is very near, no ceremony is obſerved; but in his preſence they kill a deer, offer a part to the demons, and eat the reſt.

" They allow polygamy; but the firſt wife is the chief, and is attended by the reſt. The ceremony of marriage is a ſimple purchaſe of a girl from her father; from 20 to 100 deer are given, or the bridegroom works a ſtated time for the benefit of the the bride's father. The unmarried are not remarkable for chaſtity. A man will give his daughter for a time to any friend or traveller that he takes a liking to; if he has no daughter, he will give his ſervant, but not his wives.

" They are rather below the middle ſize, and extremely active; have lively ſmiling countenances, with ſmall eyes; and both ſexes are great lovers of brandy.

" I aſked my Tungooſe, why they had not ſettled places of reſidence? They anſwered, that they knew no greater curſe than to live in one place, like a Ruſſian, or Yakut, where filth accumulates, and fills the habitation with ſtench and diſeaſe.

" They wander about the mountains, and ſeldom viſit ſuch plains as are inhabited by the Yakuti; but frequently reſort to the ſolitary habitations of the Coſſacs appointed to the different ſtages, as they are generally ſupplied with brandy, needles, thread, and ſuch trifles as are requiſite among them and their women, who always accompany them in their wanderings." P. 47.

The following Chapter deſcribes the inhabitants of the region about Virchni Kovimſkoi, and contains much curious and intereſting matter. We next accompany the author down the Kovima to the Icy Sea, where no diſcovery of any importance ſeems to have been made; and from whence, in oppoſition to the opinions of the author, confirmed by Mr. Shmaileff, Mr. Billings ſoon declared his intentions to return to Neiſhni Kovima. The eighth Chapter repreſents the departure of the travellers from the Kovima, on their return to Yakutſk, a vaſt ſpace; containing, doubtleſs, various objects of intereſt and curioſity, but to which the author dedicates not quite twenty pages. The account of the Kovima is very ſatisfactory; and its natural hiſtory detailed with great pains and ingenuity. At Yakutſk the author met with the celebrated and unfortunate Mr. Ledyard, whoſe hiſtory and melancholy fate the reader will find circumſtantially related, in the account of the proceedings of the African Aſſociation, drawn up by the late Mr. Beaufoy. This gentleman was an object of diſtruſt to the Ruſſian government, and was accordingly ſeized at Irkutſk, whither he went from Yakutſk with Mr. Billings, and was hurried back to Moſcow. His intention was to accompany the expedition to the American Continent, which he intended to explore on foot. This Chapter contains the account of two expeditions to the Icy Sea, by Ruſſians. The travellers

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left Yakutſk for Ochotſk; but immediately returned to paſs the winter at the former place.

The tenth Chapter contains a curious and agreeable account of the Yakuti, or inhabitants of the diſtrict about Yakutſk. We extract the following account of ſome of their ceremonies.

"I have not traced any atrocious vices among the Yakuti or Socha. Robberies are ſeldom committed; ſometimes, indeed, they loſe cattle; but this I believe to be more the effect of their ſtraying than their being ſtolen, as detection is almoſt certain; for they have an aſtoniſhing memory, and relate all their loſſes at every public meeting, as weddings, &c. and if any one has in his travels ſeen ſuch a beaſt as is deſcribed, he relates where and when; thus they are traced, and the puniſhment is, not only reſtoration to the party injured, but the thief is compelled to make good all the loſſes of the other Yakuti during the year, whether he has ſtolen the property or not. If an accuſation be laid againſt any by his companion, of having ſtolen and eaten or killed cattle, he muſt either pay for the ſame, receive a flogging (which is very diſgraceful) or take an oath of his innocence; and, ſhould an innocent man be accuſed, he will, in general, rather pay for them than take the ſtipulated oath, which is adminiſtered with the following ceremony:

"A magician places his tambour and dreſs before the fire, the embers of which are burning. The accuſed ſtands before it, facing the ſun, and ſays: "May I loſe during my life all that man holds dear and deſirable, father, mother, wives, children, relations; all my poſſeſſions and cattle; the light of the ſun, and then my own life; and may my ſpirit ſink to eternal miſery (mung taar) if I be guilty of the charge laid againſt me!" The magician throws butter on the hot embers; the man accuſed muſt then ſtep over the tambour and dreſs, advance to the fire, and ſwallow ſome of the exhaling ſmoke from the butter; then, looking to the ſun, ſay, "If I have ſworn falſe, deprive me of thy light and heat." Some of the tribes cloſe the ceremony by making the accuſed bite the head of a bear; becauſe they allow this beaſt to have more than human wiſdom, and ſuppoſe that ſome bear will [afterwards] kill the aggreſſor.

"They are very revengeful of inſults; nay, even entail revenge on their progeny: nor do they ever forget a benefit received; for they not only make reſtitution, but recommend to their offſpring the ties of friendſhip and gratitude to their benefactors. They are very obedient to their chiefs and oghoniors, and ſhew their attachment by frequent viſits and preſents. They are extremely hoſpitable and attentive to travellers, eſpecially to ſuch as behave with a degree of good nature, and very inquiſitive and intelligent; for they aſk queſtions freely, and anſwer any without embarraſſment or heſitation. They are anxious to ſecure friendſhip and a good name, and ſeem to ſtudy the diſpoſitions of ſuch as may be of ſervice to them, to whom they are liberal in preſents, and even in flattery. They deliberate in council on all matters of public concern, as the courſe to be taken by each in the chaſe, &c. The oghoniors are ſurrounded by the reſt, and

and their advice is always taken. I have never ſeen an old man contradicted or oppoſed, but always as implicitly obeyed as a father of a family. A young man ever gives his opinion with the greateſt reſpect and caution; and even when aſked, he ſubmits his ideas to the judgment of the old.

" The Yakuti are a healthy and hardy race, bear the extremes of heat and cold to an aſtoniſhing degree, and travel in the ſevereſt froſts on horſeback, frequently ſuffering much from hunger; they are, however, ſubject to rheumatic pains, boils, the itch, and ſore eyes; and great numbers were carried off, in 1758 and 1774, by the ſmall-pox and meaſles: the ſhamans are their doctors. They are extremely ſuperſtitious, and almoſt every tribe has its object of veneration, but not of worſhip, as the eagle, the ſwan, the ſtallion, &c. Ravens, crows, and cuckoos, are ominous birds; if theſe perch near their huts, they dread ſome misfortune, which is only to be averted by ſhooting the bird. Eagles and large birds of prey are, on the contrary, the foreboders of good. They always take care that the doors of their huts ſhall face the eaſt. The fire-place is nearly in the middle; the back of the chimney towards the door, and a free paſſage quite round it. The ſides of the hut are furniſhed with benches and ſmall cabins, which ſerve for ſleeping places. The bench extends about four feet into the hut, where the inhabitants ſit. The men keep the ſouth ſide, and the women the north. Except the hoſteſs, no woman may give any thing to eat or drink to a male ſtranger before the fire-place, but muſt walk round the chimney to preſent it.

" They never waſh any of their eating or drinking utenſils; but, as ſoon as a diſh is emptied, they clean it with the fore and middle finger; for they think it a great ſin to waſh away any part of their food, and apprehend that the conſequence will be a ſcarcity. Their earthen veſſels they keep extremely clean, becauſe they can make them ſo by burning, in which caſe the fire accepts the remains that adhered to the ſides. Before they begin to eat any thing, they throw a ſpoonful into the fire as an offering of thanks. The rich are eſteemed to be under the protection of the gods; but the poor are rejected as forſaken, and only protected by their relations, or obliged to hire themſelves out to work. Every Yakut bears two names, and is never called by the right, except in caſes of neceſſity; thus they think they evade the ſearch of the evil ſpirits bent on tormenting them. They never mention the dead, except allegorically, and leave the hut to ruins wherein any one has expired, thinking it the habitation of demons.

" Travelling with Captain Billings to the river Mayo, I obſerved the following offering in the hut of Surtuyea Birdugin, an unchriſtened prince or chief, to Sheſſugai Toyon, and his wife Akſyt, for the bleſſing of children, called Ogo Oyetto, the child's neſt. It was a horſe-hair cord tied round the chimney, leading to the ſleeping place of the hoſt and hoſteſs, ornamented with bunches of horſe-hair. Two round pieces of the bark of birch, to repreſent ſun and moon, ſuſpended; alſo the repreſentation of a ſtallion and a mare formed out of the bark, and a few wooden dolls dreſſed. The cord was faſtened to the poſt at the head of their bed, where was placed a wicker baſket with

with moſs and fur at the bottom; and on a little table in the baſket was ſet a very ſmall wooden bowl, containing boiled flour; all of which was placed by a ſhaman with great magic ceremony. The prince has three wives, and was married fifteen years without having had any children, before this offering was made; but afterwards each of his wives bore their ſhare of children, and he has now ſix ſons and daughters. This account was related to Captain Billings and me in the preſence of Mr. Hornofsky, the captain of the diſtrict of Yakutſk, by the prince himſelf: each wife has her ſeparate dwelling ſome miles diſtant from either of the others; and a ſimilar offering is placed in each of their huts.

"At the time of parturition, the huſband is called, and two ſkilful women in his preſence aſſiſt the delivery. If a ſon be born, a fat mare is killed on the third day; all the neighbours are invited to ſupper; the child is rubbed all over with fat, and a name given to it,—the more inſignificant the better, for an elegant name would entice the demons to be continually about it. No ceremony is obſerved if the child be a daughter." P. 122.

On leaving Yakutſk, the travellers once more proceeded to Ochotſk, where two new veſſels were launched for their uſe; one of theſe was wrecked, and, as it ſhould appear by this narrative, from the obſtinacy or ignorance of Mr. Billings. They determined immediately to proceed to Kamſchatka, on their paſſage to which place they diſcovered an iſland, to which they gave the name of Jonas's Iſland.

(To be continued.)

ART. II. *Philoſophical Tranſactions of the Royal Society of London for the Year* 1801. *Part I.*

(Concluded from our laſt, p. 495.*)*

V. *Account of a monſtrous Lamb.* In a Letter from Mr. A. Carliſle.

THE monſtrous lamb, whoſe extraordinary conformation is deſcribed in this paper, was ſent by the late Dr. Pulteney, of Blandford; and was, by the deſire of Sir Joſeph Banks, examined by Mr. Carliſle. The following paragraphs contain the moſt material part of his obſervations.

"The head is diſproportionably ſmall; there being no other reſemblance to the natural form than in the external ears, which are brought together by their inſertions in the front part of the head: the apertures, called by anatomiſts meatus externi, are wanting. Immediately

diately between the inſertion of the ears, an opening preſents itſelf, lined with cuticle, and capable of receiving a bougie, the ſize of the human male urethra. The outer ſurface of the head is regularly clothed with wool; and there are no appearances of abraſion, or mechanical injury, having taken place at an early period of its formation; ſuch as are obſervable in monſters, and perhaps ſometimes produced by the rubbing of the umbilical cord, or by the contiguity of the uterine contents, whilſt the young animal is yet in a ſoft ſtate.

"The whole of the organs which are naturally found in the face, are, in the preſent inſtance, defective: no veſtiges of the eyes, the noſe, or any of the apparatus belonging to the mouth, are to be ſeen. The cranium is perfectly formed into hard bone, and bears a near reſemblance to the head of a tortoiſe; it is about the ſize of a plover's egg. The os hyoides, and its proceſſes, are in the natural ſtate: there is no other part of the tongue. The cartilages of the larinx, together with their muſcles and veſſels, are in their places, ſaving the epiglottis, which is joined in with the common aperture, making a cartilaginous ring. The bones, muſcles, blood-veſſels, and nerves of the neck, are natural. Under the ſkin, which lies between the cartilaginous inſertions of the outward ears, there is a ſmall depreſſion in the ſkull, in which are lodged three regularly formed bones, of a tooth-like ſtructure, immerſed in a gelatinous ſubſtance, like that which is found in the bony part of very young growing teeth; from the ſhape and ſize of theſe bones, added to their ſituation and the want of enamel, I take them to be portions of the officula auditus, run together, and united into maſſes. The internal ſurface of the cranium is neatly lined with the dura mater; it is deficient in all the proceſſes which divide the different portions of the brain. The anterior limits of this cavity terminate at the hinder part of the ſulci; where the middle lobes cerebri ought to be lodged. The internal carotid arteries enter the ſkull as uſual, and form the baſilary artery; which ſoon divides itſelf again, for the ſupply of the pia mater and brain of this monſter. The pia mater envelopes the brain, as is uſual, and is unconnected with the dura mater; theſe membranes being each of them ſmooth, looſe, and natural. I was ſurpriſed to find the whole cerebrum, and all its nerves, deficient: the cerebellum diſpoſed quite orderly, and the following pairs of nerves nearly in their natural ſituation. Firſt, a large pair, at the anterior inferior part, which is analagous to the crura cerebri: theſe ſeem to ſtand in the place of the ſixth pair, only that their whole ſubſtance terminates in the upper cervical ganglion of the intercoſtal chain of nerves. Secondly, a large double pair, analagous to the ſeventh, coming out at the tuberculum annulare, and penetrating the meatus auditorius internus: the portio dura of this double pair appears on the ſide of the neck, after its exit from the cranium; the portio mollis remains in the labyrinth of the organ of hearing. From the ſides of the medulla oblongata, immediately at its origin, a number of ſeparate fibrils come out, which are joined into one common chord, becoming the par vagum, and being finally diſperſed in the ordinary manner. The acceſſorius to the par vargum, comes up from the medulla ſpinalis, and takes its departure with its uſual companion. Not a veſtige of any other nerve appears in the cranium; the cavity being perfectly filled,

and

and all the parts free from diſeaſed appearance. The vena magna Galeni, or a vein analagous to it, paſſes down the hinder part of the cerebellum, into the lateral ſinuſes, which are the only receptacles for the returning blood; and all the veins of the pia mater open directly into theſe ſinuſes. Upon cutting through the centre of the brain, longitudinally, the intermixture of the cortical and medullary ſubſtances form the appearance called Arbor vitæ, in a perfectly natural ſtate; the textures of thoſe two ſubſtances being firm and natural. The fourth and only ventricle is unuſually large; and the portio mollis of the ſeventh pair of nerves ariſes from its inſide, as is uſual. The anterior rounded ends of the crura cerebri, preſent a maſs of healthy medullary ſubſtance. The outer ſurface of the cerebellum is divided into the parallel layers or folds, and thoſe vermiform proceſſes, which diſtinguiſh its general character."

The plate which accompanies this paper exhibits four figures, namely, a front view of the head, and part of the neck of this monſter; the naked ſkull, and part of the neck diſſected; three pieces of bone, ſuppoſed to be the rudiments of the oſſicula auditus; and the brain with its nerves.

VI. *An anatomical Deſcription of a Male Rhinoceros.* By Mr. H. Leigh Thomas, Surgeon.

Of this curious ſpecies of animals, very little has hitherto been known with ſufficient accuracy. Dr. J. Parſons gave the Royal Society a deſcription, with a drawing of the external parts of a young rhinoceros, which, as far as it goes, appears to be quite correct.

The ſubject upon which Mr. Thomas made the obſervations, which form the contents of the preſent paper, was brought from the Eaſt-Indies to England, where, after a certain time, he was attacked with a difficulty of breathing, and died before he had attained his third year.

"In the courſe of this time," this author obſerves, "he had become perfectly docile and tame; but never, by actions or otherwiſe, expreſſed the ſmalleſt regard or affection for his keeper, or for any of the people who occaſionally fed him; neither was he eaſily irritated, but preſerved, on all occaſions, the moſt perfect indifference and ſtupidity. He was fed chiefly upon hay and oats, alſo potatoes, and other freſh vegetables; his conſumption of which was prodigious, exceeding that of two or three working horſes. It would appear, that this animal had not arrived at near its full growth: he was ſcarcely ſo high as a two year old heifer; but the bulk of his body, by meaſurement, conſiderably exceeded the length. The horn, which is affixed to the upper lip of the adult rhinoceros, was here juſt beginning to ſprout. The hoofs were divided into three obtuſe parts: the ſoles of the feet were well defended by a large maſs of elaſtic matter, covered by a ſtrong horn-like ſubſtance."

With

With reſpect to the internal peculiarities of this animal, we muſt refer our anatomical readers to the paper itſelf. The ſtructure of the eye of the rhinoceros, appears to be conſiderably different from that of other animals. The peculiarities of that organ are delineated in a plate, which accompanies the paper, and which likewiſe exhibits a portion of the jejunum inverted, to ſhow the foldings of its internal membrane.

VII. *Demonſtration of a Theorem, by which ſuch Portions of the Solidity of a Sphere are aſſigned, as admit an Algebraic Expreſſion.* By Robert Woodhouſe, A. M. &c.

This author relates that, in the ſecond volume of the Memoirs of the National Inſtitute, Mr. Boſſut announces the following theorem.

"If a ſphere be pierced perpendicularly to the plane of one of its great circles, by two cylinders, of which the axes paſs through the middle points of two radii that compoſe a diameter of this great circle, the two portions, thus taken away from the whole ſolidity of the ſphere, leave a remainder equal to two ninths of the cube of the ſphere's diameter."

But as Mr. Boſſut does not give the analytical demonſtration of the ſame, Mr. Wooditouſe having found it, ſtates it in the preſent paper, the contents of which are not ſuſceptible of any abridgment.

VIII. *Account of the Diſcovery of Silver in Herland Copper Mine.* By the Rev. Malachy Hitchins.

"Herland mine is ſituated in the pariſh of Gwinear, about ſeven miles N. E. of St. Michael's Mount, on the ſouthern coaſt of Cornwall; and two miles and a half from the mouth of the river Hayle, on the northern coaſt of the ſame county: it is contiguous to Prince George mine."

After a ſhort deſcription of this mine, which is illuſtrated by a plate, this writer obſerves, that

"the facts which deſerve to be firſt noticed are, the confined and inſulated poſition of the maſs of ſilver ore; its great depth from the ſurface of the mine; and its contiguity to a copper lode.

"The lode in which it occurs is one of thoſe croſs courſes, as they are here called, which interſect and derange the copper lodes, and conſequently are of a more recent formation.

"Lodes in this direction are uſually filled with quartz, but frequently produce galena; and ſometimes, inſtead of galena, ſulphurated antimony. They appear here to conform to the ſame laws, except in the particular inſtance now to be deſcribed, which forms, indeed, a very remarkable exception.

"No

"No ores of ſilver were obſervable in this lode, until at the depth of 110 fathoms from the ſurface, or 80 below the adit or level; and, at the farther depth of 32 fathoms, they diſappeared.

"They have been diſcovered only in the neighbourhood of one of the interſected copper lodes, extending no where above 12 feet from this lode, on the north, or above 32 feet from it, on the ſouth, and acquiring this their greateſt extent at the deepeſt level; for, the uſual dimenſions of the ſilver ore are not more than ſix feet in the former ſituation, and 12 feet in the latter.

"It is remarkable, that at the point of contact or interſection, the contents of the ſilver lode are ſo poor as to be ſcarcely worth ſaving; and thoſe of the copper lode are much leſs productive of copper than at a little from this point. Moreover, that the copper lode, in the vicinity of the interſection, ſeems to have been influenced by the ſame cauſes of improvement and declenſion as the croſs lode; being richer or poorer in copper, as the latter was, at a correſpondent level, in ſilver.

"The richeſt maſs of ſilver ore was found at the depth of two fathoms above the level at which it diſappears."

It ſeems that this ore conſiſts of galena, native biſmuth, grey cobalt ore, vitreous ſilver ore, and native ſilver; which laſt article is chiefly found in a papillary form.

About 180 tons of this ore have already been raiſed, and the miners ſeem confident in the hopes of greater ſucceſs.

IX. *Account of an Elephant's Tuſk, in which the Iron Head of a Spear was found imbedded.* By Mr. Charles Combe, of Exeter College, Oxford.

This tuſk weighed 50 pounds, and was ſuppoſed to have been brought from Africa.

"When it was delivered into the hands of the workmen, they perceived, on the tuſk being ſhaken, a rattling noiſe, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the baſe; and, in conſequence, made a tranſverſe ſection, ſomewhat below the part whence the ſound proceeded. Here, upon enlarging the aperture by a chiſſel, they diſtinguiſhed a hard extraneous body; and, on making other ſections, found it to be an iron ſpear-head, conſiderably corroded."

It is remarkable, that the texture of the ſurrounding ivory ſhows no mark of external injury; and the ſpear-head is ſituated in the direction of the natural cavity of the tuſk, pointing towards the apex of the tuſk; hence it is conjectured, that the ſpear entered at the baſis of the trunk.

A plate, with a delineation of the ſpear, and of its poſition in the tuſk, accompanies this paper.

X. *Deſcrip-*

X. *Deſcription of the Arſeniates of Copper, and of Iron, from the County of Cornwall.* By the Count de Bournon.

Section I. Arſeniates of Copper.

This author begins by obſerving, that the different aſpects under which the natural combination of the arſenic acid with copper has been found, demanded a particular examination of their mode of combination; and that the fine ſpecimens yielded within the laſt two years by a new copper mine lately worked, ſupplied the materials for the examination of their external characters, a deſcription of which forms the ſubject of the preſent paper.

This new copper mine is called Huel Gorland, and is ſituated within the pariſh of Gwennop, in Cornwall.

It appears that the arſeniates of copper, or what went by that name, had been imperfectly deſcribed by certain mineralogiſts, and had been quite miſtaken by others. It is about twenty years ſince the arſeniates of copper were diſcovered in Cornwall, either in Carrarach mine, or in Tincroft mine. But no large ſpecimens of it had ever been found, and they had entirely ceaſed to be found in either of thoſe mines, when the Huel Gorland mine began to be worked; and fine ſpecimens of this mineral were extracted.

"The matrix," this author ſays, "of this is ſiliceous, ſometimes cryſtalline, and ſometimes in an anamorphous maſs. Here and there we find mixed with it, in greater or leſs profuſion, all the known oxides of copper; many of the argillaceous oxides of iron; alſo grey vitreous copper ore. This laſt is often found differing from its uſual appearance, in a manner which I believe has not hitherto been taken notice of. I think it ſhould make a diſtinct variety among the deep yellow copper ores, under the name of *yellow hematitic copper ore.*"

This author then proceeds to deſcribe the various colours, the hardneſs, and the forms of thoſe arſeniates. He is induced, from their more general appearances, to divide the arſeniates into four ſpecies; and his diviſion was remarkably juſtified by the ſubſequent analyſis of thoſe minerals.

Species 1ſt. Arſeniate of copper, in the form of an obtuſe octaedron.

Species 2d. Arſeniate of copper, in hexaedral laminæ, with inclined ſides.

Species 3d. Arſeniate of copper, in the form of an acute octaedron.

Of this ſpecies, this author reckons five varieties; namely, 1. Capillary, of a determinate form. 2. Capillary, of an indeterminate form. 3. In cryſtals perfectly regular for a part of

of their length, and fibrous at their extremity. 4. Amianthiform. And, 5. Hæmatitiform.

Species 4th. Arſeniate of copper, in the form of a triedral priſm.

Section II. Arſeniates of Iron.

There are two ſpecies of thoſe arſeniates; namely, 1ſt. The ſimple arſeniate of iron.

"This ſpecies cryſtallizes in perfect cubes; ſometimes, though rarely, they are a little flattened; their ſides are ſmooth and brilliant."

2d. The cupreous arſeniate of iron.

"The cryſtals of this ſpecies are of uncommon brilliancy, and are perfectly tranſparent. Their form is a rhomboidal tetraedal priſm, having two of its edges very obtuſe, and the other two very acute."

The various forms of the cryſtallized arſeniates, both of copper and of iron, are delineated on three plates, which follow the paper.

XI. *Analyſis of the Arſeniates of Copper, and of Iron, deſcribed in the preceding Paper; likewiſe an Analyſis of the red Octaedral Copper Ore of Cornwall; with Remarks on ſome particular Modes of Analyſis.* By R. Chenevix, Eſq. M. R. I. A.

This paper is divided into three Sections, the firſt of which contains the analyſis of the arſeniates of copper.

Of the various proceſſes which might be uſed for the analyſis of thoſe minerals, Mr. Chenevix deſcribes two only, which, after frequent trial, were found preferable to the reſt.

"By reducing," he ſays, "to powder any of the arſeniates of copper here ſpoken of, and then expoſing them to heat in a platina crucible, the water of cryſtallization was quickly diſſipated. But, as too great a degree of heat volatilized ſome portion of the arſenic acid, it was found neceſſary to moderate the heat; and in order that every particle of water might be finally expelled, to prolong it. When the diminution of weight was aſcertained, the reſiduum was diſſolved in acetous, or, ſtill better, in dilute nitric acid, and nitrate of lead was poured in. Arſeniate of lead, and nitrate of copper, were thus formed, by double decompoſition; but when more nitric acid had been uſed than was ſtrictly neceſſary to diſſolve the arſeniate of copper, no precipitate appeared, till the liquor had been evaporated. When the evaporation was puſhed too far, part of the nitric acid, contained in the ſoluble nitrate of copper, flew off; and that nearly inſoluble cupreous nitrate, firſt mentioned by Mr. Prouſt, was produced. To obviate both inconveniences, alcohol was added, immediately before the liquor was quite evaporated, and long after the precipitate had begun to appear; in a few minutes all the arſeniate of lead fell to the bottom, while the nitrate of copper was held in ſolution. Theſe new products

products being ſeparated by filtration, the ſpirituous liquor was diſtilled; and, from the nitrate of copper, the quantity of that metal contained in the ore was obtained, by boiling the ſolution with potaſh or ſoda.

"Another method, which may be deemed ſhorter, and perhaps even more accurate, to analyze arſeniate of copper, is as follows: After the quantity of water has been eſtimated, the remainder may be treated by either of the fixed alkalies, which will combine with the acid, and leave the brown, the only real oxide of copper, in the ſame ſtate as that in which it exiſted in the ore; the alkaline liquor may be neutralized, as above, and the proportions determined in the ſame manner."

This author then deſcribes the analyſis at large of each ſpecimen, and ſtates the reſults; to which he adds a variety of proper and uſeful remarks.

From a general view of thoſe proceſſes, it appears,

"1ſt. That natural arſeniate of copper exiſts in three different ſtates of combination; the firſt containing 14 per cent. the ſecond 21 per cent. and the third about 29 per cent. of acid.

"2dly. That each of theſe may contain different proportions of water, either as conſtituting a hydrate, or as water of cryſtallization.

"3dly. That upon loſing its water, arſeniate of copper will paſs from blue to pale green, and finally to brown.

"4thly. That this laſt is the only arſeniate of copper, all the others being arſeniates of hydrate of copper," &c.

Section II. Arſeniates of Iron.

This Section contains the analyſis of the arſeniates of iron, from which it appears, that 100 parts of the cupreous arſeniate of iron contain of

Silica . . .	3
Arſenic acid .	33,5
Oxide of iron	27,5
Oxide of copper	22,5
Water . . .	12
	98,5

Alſo, that 100 parts of the ſimple arſeniate of iron contain,

Silica . . .	4
Arſenic acid .	31
Oxide of iron	45,5
Oxide of copper	9
Water . . .	10,5
	100,0

Section III. Analyſis of the Red Octaedral Copper Ore, in which the metal exiſts in a ſtate hitherto unknown in nature.

After

After the account of the various experiments made with this mineral, Mr. Chenevix ſays:

"From the foregoing experiments it appears, that copper exiſts in this ore in a ſtate hitherto unknown in nature; and that it contains much leſs oxygen than has ever been ſuſpected in any oxide of copper; for, from the quantity which was precipitated in the metallic ſtate by iron, it appears to be combined in the proportion of about 11,5 per cent. To confirm this idea, and aſcertain as nearly as I could the preciſe quantity, I diſſolved 100 parts in nitric acid; then boiled with pot-aſh, and filtered. One hundred and eleven remained upon the filter, which, as they had combined with a new portion of oxygen from the nitric acid, were in the ſtate of black oxide, and correſpond exactly to 88,75; ſo that I believe I ſhall be within one per cent. of the truth, in aſſerting the proportions to be 88,5 of copper, to 11,5 of oxygen."

This volume of the Philoſophical Tranſactions concludes with the

Meteorological Journal, kept at the Apartments of the Royal Society, by Order of the Preſident and Council.

This Journal, which commences with the 1ſt of January, 1800, and is continued to the end of the ſame year, conſiſts, as uſual, of eleven columns; namely, for the days of the month; Six's thermometer, which ſhows the greateſt degree of heat and of cold that has taken place during the abſence of the obſerver; the time of obſervation, which is at ſeven or eight o'clock in the morning, and two in the afternoon; the actual degree of Fahrenheit's thermometer, kept without the houſe; the like within; the height of the barometer; the degree of the hygrometer; the quantity of rain in inches and decimals; the direction of the wind; the ſtrength of the ſame; and the ſtate of the weather.

It appears that the greateſt heat, as indicated by Six's thermometer, is 89°, which was obſerved on the 2d of Auguſt; the greateſt cold is 18°, which was obſerved on the 1ſt of January; the mean temperature for the whole year is 50°,5. From the obſervations with the ordinary thermometer, the mean temperature for that whole year is 51°,1. The greateſt height of the barometer, namely, 30,45 inches, was obſerved on the 25th of July; the leaſt, namely, 28,75 inches, was obſerved on the 17th of May; the mean height for the whole year being 29,9 inches. The greateſt height of the hygrometer, namely, 95°, was obſerved on the 4th of January; the leaſt, namely, 41°, was obſerved on the 12th of Auguſt; the mean for the whole year being 79°,2. The whole quantity of rain fallen in the rain gauge, throughout the year, amounts to 18,925 inches.

ART. III. *Minſtrelſy of the Scottiſh Border: conſiſting of Hiſtorical and Romantic Ballads, collected in the Southern Counties of Scotland; with a few of modern Date, founded upon local Tradition. In Two Volumes.* 8vo. 396 and 392 pp. 18s. Kelſo printed; ſold by Cadell and Davies, London. 1802.

IT appears, from various paſſages in Biſhop Percy's Reliques of Ancient Engliſh Poetry, as well as from the teſtimony of the learned editor, that the Minſtrels, to whom he was indebted for the many animated ballads collected in that valuable miſcellany, were principally natives of the *north countrie*; that is to ſay, of the marſhes or borders of England and Scotland. We were therefore led to hope that, by a careful ſearch through thoſe provinces, the native country of our poetry, many ſimilar compoſitions would be found to exiſt, either amongſt the MSS. uſually accompanying family records, or preſerved by oral tradition; and it is to ſuch a ſearch, carried on, as it appears, with unwearied patience, and certainly directed by much taſte and learning, that the preſent elegant collection owes its exiſtence.

The two volumes now publiſhed contain three claſſes of poems, arranged under three diſtinct heads, as expreſſed in the title-page. The Introduction to the work compriſes a rapid ſurvey of border-hiſtory, or, rather, a ſeries of hiſtorical anecdotes, from the decline of the Roman empire to the union of the two crowns; together with a ſhort but maſterly ſketch of the general character and manners of the border-tribes. Each ballad is alſo accompanied by a preliminary eſſay, in which its ſubject is explained, and its probable date aſcertained, by the authority of ſome hiſtorical document: and it is followed by notes, explanatory of thoſe minute alluſions to cotemporary manners, or to local ſcenery, which would eſcape the attention of Engliſh readers. The few difficulties of language which were peculiar to the work are removed, by gloſſarial notes at the bottom of the page. In theſe illuſtrations of his ſubject, Mr. Scott (a diſtinguiſhed advocate at the Scottiſh bar) has availed himſelf of his profeſſional knowledge to point out the influence produced, by peculiar ſyſtems of law, on the manners of nations. The "Bond of Alliance, or FEUD-STAUNCHING," printed in the Appendix to the Introduction, No. 3, "the Bond of MANRENT," p. 57, &c. are worth many volumes of diſſertation on the feudal policy of our anceſtors.

It is evident, that a poetical miſcellany thus edited will preſent, under the humble title of a collection of ballads, a moſt

intereſting and lively, and often a moſt inſtructive, comment on the hiſtory of the times to which they refer. The great political events of each reign are to be found in every hiſtorical abridgment; but we here behold a delineation of the ſcenes on which they took place, the minor incidents by which they were accompanied, the impreſſions they made on the actors, with all the modifications which they received from paſſion and national prejudice. But the direct and immediate purpoſe of the publication is to collect materials for the hiſtory of border-poetry; a moſt intricate ſubject, the full diſcuſſion of which is reſerved for a third volume, intended to conclude the work. In the ſame volume, it ſeems to be Mr. Scott's intention to print the original romance of "Sir Triſtram," of which a copy was diſcovered (we believe by Mr. Ritſon) in the Advocate's Library in Edinburgh; and to this romance, the compoſition of Thomas of Erceldoun, the father of Scottiſh Poetry, will be added other popular tales and ballads, communicated to the editor through various channels, but excluded from the preſent volume, becauſe they did not immediately relate to the particular traditions of the border.

"The more rude and wild the ſtate of ſociety," ſays Mr. Scott, "the more general and violent is the impulſe received from poetry and muſic. The Muſe, whoſe effuſions are the amuſement of a very ſmall part of a poliſhed nation, records, in the lays of inſpiration, the hiſtory, the laws, the very religion of ſavages. Where the pen and the preſs are wanting, the flow of numbers impreſſes upon the memory of poſterity the deeds and ſentiments of their forefathers. Verſe is naturally connected with muſic; and, among a rude people, the union is ſeldom broken. By this natural alliance, the lays, "ſteeped in the ſtream of harmony," are more eaſily retained by the reciter, and produce upon his audience a more impreſſive effect. Hence, there has hardly been found to exiſt a nation ſo rude, as not to liſten with enthuſiaſm to the ſongs of their bards, recounting the exploits of their forefathers, recording their laws and moral precepts, or hymning the praiſes of their deities. But, where the feelings are frequently ſtretched to the higheſt tone, by the viciſſitudes of a life of danger and military adventure, this prediſpoſition of a ſavage people to admire their own rude poetry and muſic is heightened, and its tone becomes peculiarly determined. It is not the peaceful Hindu at his loom, it is not the timid Eſquimaux in his canoe, whom we muſt expect to glow at the war-ſong of Tyrtæus. The muſic and poetry of each country muſt keep pace with their uſual tone of mind, as well as with the ſtate of ſociety.

"The morality of their compoſitions is determined by the ſame circumſtances. Thoſe themes are neceſſarily choſen by the bard, which regard the favourite exploits of his hearers; and he celebrates only thoſe virtues, which from infancy he has been taught to admire. Hence, as remarked by Leſley, the muſic and ſongs of the Border

were of a military nature, and celebrated the valour and ſucceſs of their predatory expeditions. Razing, like Shakſpeare's pirate, the eighth commandment from the decalogue, the minſtrels praiſed their chieftains for the very exploits, againſt which the laws of the country denounced a capital doom. An outlawed freebooter was to them a more intereſting perſon, than the king of Scotland exerting his power to puniſh his depredations; and when the characters are contraſted, the latter is always repreſented as a ruthleſs and ſanguinary tyrant. SPENSER's deſcription of the bards of Ireland applies, in ſome degree, to our ancient border-poets.——As of a moſt notorious thief, and wicked outlaw, which had lived all his life-time of ſpoils and robberies, one of their bards in his praiſe will ſay, "that he was none of the idle milk-ſops that was brought up by the fire-ſide, but that moſt of his days he ſpent in arms and valiant enterprizes; that he never did eat his meat before he had won it with his ſword; that he lay not all night ſlugging in his cabin under his mantle, but uſed commonly to keep others waking to defend their lives, and did light his candle at the flames of their houſes to lead him in the darkneſs; that the day was his night, and the night his day," &c.—The ſame concurrence of circumſtances, ſo well pointed out by SPENSER, as dictating the topics of the Iriſh bards, tuned the border-harps to the praiſe of an outlawed ARMSTRONG or MURRAY." P. xc.

This analogy, which might evidently be carried much further, and the whole of the preceding reaſoning, will be confirmed by the following ſpecimen, which we ſelect merely as being one of the ſhorteſt of the hiſtorical ballads, and as requiring no illuſtration.

"JOHNIE OF BREADISLEE.

Johnie roſe up in a May morning,
Called for water to waſh his hands—
"Gar looſe to me the gude graie dogs,
That are bound wi' iron bands."

When Johnie's mother gat word a' that
Her hands, for dule, ſhe wrang—
"O Johnie! for my benniſon,
To the grenewood dinna gang!

Eneugh ye hae' o' the gude wheat bread,
And eneugh o' the blude-red wine;
And therefore, for nae venniſon, Johnie,
I pray ye, ſtir frae hame!"

But Johnie's buſkt up his gude bend bow,
His arrows, ane by ane;
And he has gane to Durriſdeer,
To hunt the dun deer down.

As he came down by Merriemaſs,
And in by the benty line,
There has he eſpied a deer lying,
Aneath a buſh of ling.

Johnie

Johnie he ſhot, and the dun deer lap,
And he wounded her on the ſide;
But, atween the water and the brae,
His hounds they laid her pride.

And Johnie has bryttled* the deer ſae weel,
That he's had out her liver and lungs;
And wi' theſe he has feaſted his bludey hounds,
As if they had been Erl's ſons.

They eate ſae much of the venniſon,
And drank ſae much o' the blude,
That Johnie, and a' his bludey hounds,
Fell aſleep, as they had been dead.

And by there cam a ſilly auld carle,
An ill death mote he die!
For he's awa to Hiſlinton,
Where the Seven Foreſters did lie.

"What news, what news, ye gray-headed carle?
What news bring ye to me?"—
"I bring nae news, ſaid the gray-headed carle,
Save what theſe eyes did ſee.

As I came down by Merriemaſs,
And down among the ſcroggs†,
The bonnieſt childe that ever I ſaw,
Lay ſleeping amang his dogs.

The ſhirt that was upon his back,
Was o' the Holland fine;
The doublet, which was over that,
Was o' the Lincome twine.

The buttons, that were on his ſleeve,
Were o' the gowd ſae gude;
The gude graie hounds he lay amang
Their mouths were dyed wi' blude."

Then out and ſpak the firſt foreſter,
The heid man ower them a'—
"If this be Johnie of Breadiſlee,
Nae nearer will we draw."

But up and ſpak the ſixth foreſter,
His ſiſter's ſon was he;
"If this be Johnie of Breadiſlee,
We ſoon ſhall gar him die!"

The firſt flight of arrows the foreſters ſhot,
They wounded him on the knee;
And out and ſpak the ſeventh foreſter,
"The next will gar him die!"

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* *Bryttled*; to cut up veniſon. See the ancient ballad o Chevy Chace.

† *Scroggs*; ſtunted trees.

Johnie's

Johnie's ſet his back againſt an aik,
His fute againſt a ſtane;
And he has ſlain the ſeven foreſters,
He has ſlain them a' but ane.

He has broke three ribs in that ane's ſide,
But and his collar bane;
He's laid him twa fald ower his ſteed;
Bade him carry the tidings hame.

"O is there na a bonnie bird
Can ſing as I can ſay?
Could flee away to my mother's bower,
And tell to fetch Johnie away?"

The ſtarling flew to his mother's window-ſtane,
It whiſtled, and it ſang;
And aye, the ower-word o' the tune
Was "Johnie tarries lang!"

They made a rod o' the hazel buſh,
Another o' the ſlae-thorn tree;
And mony, mony were the men
At fetching our Johnie.

Then out and ſpak his auld mother,
And faſt her tears did fa'—.
"Ye wad na be warn'd, my ſon Johnie,
Frae the hunting to bide awa!

Aft hae I brought, to Breadiſlee,
The leſs gear* and the mair;
But I never brought to Breadiſlee
What griev'd my heart ſae ſair!

But wae betide that ſilly auld carle;
An ill death ſhall he die!
For the higheſt tree on Merriemaſs
Shall be his morning's fee."

Now Johnie's gude bend bow is broke,
And his gude graie dogs are ſlain;
And his body lies dead in Durriſdeer,
And his hunting it is done." P. 59.

Among the Poems contained in this volume are two whoſe character is very peculiar. Theſe are the "Fray of Suport," (p. 184) and the "Lyke-wake Dirge," (P. 226) The firſt is a ſort of war-whoop, expreſſed in ſomething like ſtanzas, and apparently adapted to a muſical chant: the other, a ſpecies of apoſtrophe to a departed ſoul, intended to be ſung by thoſe who watch

* *Gear* uſually ſignifies *goods*, but here *ſpoil*.

the

the dead body. Both are ſingularly uncouth and ſavage; but their wildneſs has a terrific effect, which would perhaps be diminiſhed, if they were more eaſily intelligible.

The Romantic Ballads, which occupy the greater part of the ſecond volume, though leſs intereſting to the hiſtorian, will probably afford more amuſement than the former claſs to the generality of readers, becauſe they contain greater variety of incident, and are more highly coloured with the marvellous; beſides which they poſſeſs, in addition to much poetical merit, that of recalling to our memory many of the fictions with which we have often been delighted. The ballad of "King Henrie," for inſtance, is very analogous to the "Marriage of Sir Gawain," (in Biſhop Percy's Reliques) the ſubject of which has been treated by Chaucer and Gower, and is apparently borrowed from an Icelandic *Saga*, which Mr. Scott has quoted (p. 129) in the Latin tranſlation of Torfæus. In the "Gay Goſs-hawk", we find an incident adopted by the Italian noveliſts, and by Shakſpeare in his Romeo and Juliet. The ballad of "Lord Thomas and Fair Annie", exhibits one of the trials in the well-known tale of Griſelidis; and is ſaid by Mr. Scott to reſemble the "*Lay le Frain*", written by *Marie de France*, a tranſlation of which, by ſome contemporary minſtrel, is preſerved in the Advocate's Library. "Kempion" is evidently a fragment of ſome ancient lay or fabliau; indeed the editor declares himſelf convinced, that "the farther our reſearches are extended, the more we ſhall ſee cauſe to believe, that the romantic ballads of later times are, for the moſt part, abridgments of the ancient romances, narrated in a ſmoother ſtanza, and more modern language." We ſhould be glad to offer to our readers a ſpecimen of this very pleaſing claſs of poems; but they are generally too long for this purpoſe, and to abridge would be to mutilate them.

It would, however, be unjuſt to diſmiſs this part of the work, without noticing the Eſſay "on the Gothic Syſtem of Mythology," which forms the introduction to the Ballad of "the young Tamlane." In this comprehenſive Eſſay, which brings into one point of view all the materials collected by preceding writers on the ſubject, Mr. Scott has ſhown, that the ſuperſtitious notions concerning the *Elfen* of the Saxons, the *Duergar* of the Scandinavians, the *ſubterraneous people* of the Germans, and the *Peris* or Fairies of Perſia and Arabia, were all modified and combined in the ancient popular creed adopted by the Norman *Trouveurs*, and by them tranſmitted to their Engliſh ſucceſſors, Gower, Chaucer, &c. that having received, from the creative genius of Shakſpeare, various embelliſhments and additions, it became more analogous to, though ſtill diſtinct from,

from, the ſplendid Mythology of the Eaſtern nations; while the coarſer features of the Gothic original were ſtill preſerved among the border-minſtrels, and remain to this day among the peaſantry of Scotland. This diſſertation, which is enlivened by many appoſite ſtories, and illuſtrated by various extracts from original works of very difficult acceſs, is equally calculated to amuſe the moſt curſory reader, and to intereſt and inſtruct the learned. Among the moſt pleaſing of theſe extracts, is the quotation from Orfeo and Heurodis (Orpheus and Euridice) a beautiful MS. Romance preſerved in the Advocate's Library.

The "imitations by modern authors," which conclude this part of the work, conſiſt of only four articles; namely, The Eve of St. John, Lord Soulis, The Cout of Keeldar, and, Glenfinlas. The firſt and laſt of theſe, the compoſition of the editor, were inſerted in Mr. Lewis's Tales of Wonder, of which they certainly formed the brighteſt ornament; but as it is impoſſible to eſtimate correctly the merits of an imitation, without comparing it with the original, we rejoice that theſe noble Poems have been transferred to their natural place in this volume. The other two pieces, written by Mr. Leyden, poſſeſs conſiderable merit; but would be perhaps more generally pleaſing, if they repreſented leſs exactly the obſcurity of tranſition, and harſhneſs of character, obſervable in the early border-poetry.

We ſhall now diſmiſs, for the preſent, this truly elegant collection, reſerving our further criticiſms till Mr. Scott ſhall have laid before us his whole ſtock of materials; but we cannot conclude without obſerving, that a correct *Map* of the Scottiſh Border would be a moſt valuable addition to the third volume of a work, which proves, in almoſt every page, how much the hiſtory of a country is capable of being illuſtrated by an exact knowledge of its topography.

ART. IV. *The Beauties of Wiltſhire, diſplayed in ſtatiſtical, hiſtorical, and deſcriptive Sketches, illuſtrated by Views of the principal Seats, &c. with Anecdotes of the Arts. Two Volumes.* 8vo. 1l. 4s. Vernor and Hood. 1801.

THIS is the ſame kind of elegant publication, and produced by the ſame ſkilful hand, as the Beauties of England and Wales, noticed with commendation in our number for March. The

The reader however is not to imagine, that the Beauties of Wiltſhire are ſelected with no other view than to diſplay the editor's profeſſional ſkill as an artiſt, and to exhibit a gaudy and ornamented volume in compliance with the meretricious taſte of the day. Mr. Britton is a native of Wiltſhire, "his earlieſt breath was drawn within its limits, the gambols of his infancy were acted in its rural vales, and the happy days of ſcholaſtic initiation, were all paſſed in its humble villages."

Topographical works, when executed by individuals ſufficiently accompliſhed, may be made to ſerve the nobleſt purpoſes. To mark the various changes of domeſtic manners, and political characters, is no leſs intereſting and amuſing, than extenſively uſeful. The cauſes and the conſequences of interrupted peace, and civil commotions, ſhould form an important part of our moral ſtudies, and may inſtruct us all to be more valuable as men, and uſeful as ſubjects. In this work, the author has been attentive to what muſt neceſſarily conſtitute the leading features of ſuch performances, Hiſtory, Agriculture, Biography, and the Arts. The places more particularly illuſtrated, and deſigns of which embelliſh the work, are, Saliſbury Cathedral, Wilton Houſe, Fonthill, Stourhead, Longleat, Bowood, and Chippenham.

On this laſt town, the author dwells with more than common fondneſs; it was long the place of his reſidence. As the other articles have again and again been deſcribed by elegant and able pens, we ſhall take our ſpecimen from this part of the work; and, in doing ſo, we wiſh to give Mr. B. a teſtimony of our reſpect.

"Chippenham is a town of conſiderable importance, not only on account of its great antiquity, but alſo from its increaſing commerce, ariſing from the eſtabliſhment of its extenſive clothing manufactories, which, in conjunction with its favourable ſituation as a principal thoroughfare to the weſtern cities, will, in all probability, ſoon cauſe it to aſſume a rank little inferior to any in the county.

"It is ſaid the name of this town originated in its market, for which it has been famous for many centuries, Chyppanham, in the Saxon language, ſignifies a market-place; thus, cyppan, means to buy, and cypman, a buyer, or merchant.

"Chippenham was a principal town of the Weſt Saxons, and apparently a favourite reſidence of their kings, whoſe palace was bequeathed by the great Alfred to his youngeſt daughter, Ethelfleda.

"Not a veſtige of this building is remaining; but it is generally ſuppoſed to have joined what is now called the Angel Inn; a houſe there having always been diſtinguiſhed by the name of the palace, till within theſe ſeven years, when the whole building was entirely demoliſhed to make room for a modern ſtructure. That the whole of this building had ſtood from the time of Alfred, may admit of a doubt; but

but that certain parts were of great antiquity, was evident; among theſe may be reckoned the maſſy walls and heavy pointed arched porch; from the latter, however, it may be inferred, that this building was of a date poſterior to the time of Alfred; as the arch of the Saxons was generally circular; but that they occaſionally mixed the circular with the pointed arch in their buildings, is evident from thoſe at Malmſbury abbey, &c.

" But in addition to the maſſiveneſs of its walls and porch, ſome parts of the timber-work exhibited traces of being the performance of no recent period; the floors, for inſtance, of hard oak, and very thick, were evidently executed without a ſaw. The mouldings, likewiſe, of one or two of the door-caſes, and part of the wainſcot, were not worked with a plane, but appear to have been chipped out with a chiſel.

" Of the ancient hiſtory of this town, there is little upon record; what ſeems moſt to be depended on is, that when Alfred with inferior forces had conquered the Danes, and made them ſign a treaty by which they engaged to quit the kingdom, they treacherouſly poſſeſſed themſelves of this place, and being ſtrengthened by numbers of their countrymen, ſoon obliged the Saxons to diſperſe, and their monarch to ſeek ſecurity in diſguiſe, and take refuge in the cottage of a neatherd, as I have ſtated in the account of Eddington.

" This town, in the time of Richard the Second, belonged to the Hungerford family; but reverting to the crown on the death of Lord Haſtings, was given by Richard the Third to John Howard, Duke of Norfolk. It was reſtored by Henry the Seventh to the heirs of its former poſſeſſors.

" Chippenham is ſituated in a fine fertile valley, on the banks of the lower Avon, over which river there is a handſome free-ſtone bridge, of twenty-one arches. This has been much widened, and neatly ornamented with baluſtrades and lamps.

" It is to be remarked as an extraordinary circumſtance, that the widening of this bridge, which took place about four years ago, was intended to accommodate foot paſſengers with a ſafe path-way over it, which was certainly wanted; in the execution of the work, however, its deſign was forgotten, for the foot paſſenger is ſtill left to make his way, amidſt the horſes and carriages, with what ſafety he can.

" A traditional ſtory informs us, that this bridge was firſt given by Queen Elizabeth; who, going through the town, was much pleaſed with the attention of the inhabitants, but equally incommoded in paſſing the ford at the entrance. This, however, is contradicted in the charter granted by Queen Mary, which proves that a bridge was then in exiſtence, by her having given certain tracts of land for the purpoſe (among other things) of keeping it in repair. The town is very populous, and of conſiderable extent; the principal ſtreet is about half a mile in length. Though the inhabitants have done much by their judicious alterations and improvements; yet, I truſt, they will not leave their patriotic plans half completed; the diſfiguring cluſter of old houſes, the ſhabby town-hall, and the butchers' ſhambles, are diſcordant objects, and do not unite in harmony with the ſurrounding buildings, &c.

" Near

" Near the centre of the town is the corn-market, in an open ſpace, where the farmers uſed to aſſemble with their ſaleable ſeeds, &c. In this area is erected a large uſeful town pump, which is ſurrounded with iron paliſadoes; but this water being too hard for ſome domeſtic purpoſes, two or three perſons are employed to convey the river water to different parts of the town, for which they receive one farthing a pail-full, or three-pence per barrel. The river Avon ſkirts three ſides of the town; yet the centre and fourth ſide are deficient of water. Chippenham is rather peculiarly circumſtanced with reſpect to this important article of human ſubſiſtence; for, though plentifully ſupplied in all its parts with ſpring water by means of wells, yet the generality of them produces what is called hard water; whereas, the well in which the town pump ſtands, being very deep, has the advantage of a ſuperior kind of fluid, not quite ſo ſoft as the river water, nor ſo hard as thoſe ſprings which flow in veins nearer the ſurface of the earth.

" The church is a venerable, handſome ſtructure, ſuppoſed by Camden to have been founded by the Hungerfords, yet without ſufficient evidence to warrant this ſuppoſition.

" The arms of the family, it is true, are to be ſeen on the tower, and in different parts of the church, both within and without, particularly on a portion of the walls called Hungerford's Chapel; yet the body of the fabric is unqueſtionably of much older date than the time when the Hungerfords became Lords of Chippenham.

" As Walter, Lord Hungerford, in the reign of Henry the Sixth, obtained the royal grant for founding a chantry within the pariſh of this place, to pray for the good eſtate and ſouls of his ſons, as well as for thoſe of Henry the Fifth, Catherine his wife, &c. it ſeems probable, that at the time he erected the above-mentioned chapel, the whole building underwent a general repair; that conſiderable additions were made to the original remains; and that the tower, or at leaſt the ſpire part of it, was then built.

" The ſouth ſide of the church is ornamented with battlements, and Gothic pinnacles. The inſide is decorated with a large handſome organ, and abounds with curious old monuments; among which the following are worthy of notice, from their peculiarity.

" An old tomb, with this inſcription:

" Armiger hoc tumulo jacet hic generoſus opaco
Andreas Baynton, qui nominatus erat,
Quem genuit miles bene notus ubique, Edoardus
Hujus erat hæres, nunc requieſcit humo."

" In this dark tomb lies the worthy 'Squire, named Andrew Baynton: alſo, the well-known Knight, his ſon and heir, Edward, here lies buried."

" The following inſcription is on a flat ſtone in the wall, on the north ſide of the church, near the pulpit, erected to the memory of a Mr. Ely, formerly an attorney of this town:

" Neare to this place lyeth the body of John Ely, gent. ſometimes burgeſſe of this towne, who died Nov. 25th, 1663.

" 'Tis

" 'Tis well I am ſtone, for to preſerve his name,
Who was, if mortal be, without blame;
In his religious, civil practice, juſt;
In his calling no traitor to his truſt.
If this report conſuming time ſhall weare,
And wipe out,—ſearch Heaven's Records, 'tis there."

" There is alſo the following inſcriptions in the chancel:

" Neare unto this place lieth interred the body of Mr. Joſeph Glare, the late vicar of this pariſh, and his two ſons, which ſaid vicar departed this life the 26th day of December, 1680.

" Starrs fall, but in the groſſneſs of our ſight,
A good man dying, the world doth loſe a light.
While we lament our loſs ſuch lights put out,
The Heavens triumph above, the angels ſhout.
If virtue itſelf with virtuous man could dye,
Reader, thou then might ſay, here it doth lye."

We can have no ſcruple in giving our opinion, that theſe are two very elegant and amuſing volumes; and when we conſider their form, and embelliſhments, we think the price put upon them very reaſonable. Publiſhers are too apt to make ſome ſlight frontiſpiece or vignettes, indifferently executed, a pretence for materially enhancing the price of books. But the plates to this work, as were thoſe to the Beauties of England, are executed with the hand of a maſter. The Frontiſpieces, in particular, which exhibit the Weſt and South Eaſt fronts of Saliſbury Cathedral, are remarkably beautiful. The engraved Vignette, repreſenting a view of Stonehenge, is no leſs ſo.

ART. V. *A Comparative View of the Public Finances, &c.*

(Concluded from p. 381.)

THE concluſion of our remarks on this tract, though fully prepared, we have been obliged to poſtpone, to give admiſſion to newer matter. We ſhall now reſume, and finiſh our critique.

On the protracted " tedioufneſs" of the term of the redemption of the debt by the fund, ſomething further remains to be ſaid; it is deduced from the doctrine of annuities, intimately mixed with every queſtion relating to this ſubject; a branch of mathematical ſcience, which Mr. Morgan has the reputation of having very ſucceſsfully cultivated. If he had

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on this queſtion had recourſe to one of its ſimpleſt practical applications, he would have found, that although war has brought on us burthens, not nearly counterbalanced by ſuch a circumſtance, yet rapidly as it increaſed the debt, the fund having been relatively increaſed by it in the ſame period with about double that celerity, it has abridged the term of its entire extinction ſtill future; and by what number of years may be ſhown by the following approximation. Let it be conceived, that the firſt ſinking-fund, like the ſecond, continues to be increaſed by the intereſt of the capital diſcharged, after its amount ſhall exceed four millions*; and let it be ſuppoſed alſo, that the capitals are all of one kind, or at one rate of intereſt, an aſſumption tacitly made in moſt computations on the debt; and when the fund is at any period ſaid to be a certain fractional part of the capital. Now in January, 1802, the free-fund amounted to 5,585,000l. and its amount, added to the intereſt of the permanent capital, to 21,534,000l. and the former being taken to have conſtantly increaſed at compound intereſt at 3¼ per cent. the rate taken for future terms above, will amount to the ſum of 21,534,000l. in thirty-ſix years and ſeven months (that is, in the ſeventh month of the year 1838) or the capital be then finally extinguiſhed; for the quantity of the intereſt thereof, reverting to the commiſſioners in the term, will be that of the whole.

The free-fund, in 1793, amounted to 1,612,000l. and the ſum of the fund, and the intereſt of the debt, to 9,524,000l. to which latter ſum, the fund will amount at the ſame rate of intereſt, in forty-eight years and a few days, or at the end of the year 1841. Whence the period of extinction, now future, if the peace had continued, would have been prolonged two years and five months. It may be added, that the ſimple inſpection of the price of ſtock in the beginning of 1792, and terminating in April, on the twentieth day of which month war was declared by France againſt the Emperor, evidently indicates, that the ſmaller of the two funds muſt have lowered the intereſt of the market to 3 per cent. in a relatively ſhort period, if there had been a tolerable ſecurity for the continuance of peace; and if that rate of intereſt had continued to this time by its prolongation, the war would be found to have ſhortened the period of redemption, by five years and five months.

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* This is an effective conſolidation, a meaſure which we had ſtated would probably be adopted, in our review of Mr. Roſe's Brief Examination, in May, 1799, p. 514.

Another

Another poſition of Mr. M.'s muſt be conſidered, that the ſinking-fund is formed "by the impoſition of heavy taxes, in addition to thoſe which are neceſſary for paying the annual intereſt" of the debt. What has *colour* of juſtice, and what has none at all, in this unqualified *dictum*, for which no evidence is attempted to be brought forward, ſhall now be ſhown.

After the American war, our commerce ſoon having regained its former ſtate, began to flouriſh in every branch with new and unexpected luxuriance; its roots ſhot out wider, and making way for themſelves into new and unexhauſted ſoil, acquired a higher and a prolific vigour, and puſhed up into light that beautiful ſcion, the ſinking-fund; a production, at the firſt inſtant of its appearance, of the higheſt expectation, and which, watered and nurtured by an enlightened and aſſiduous care, has already grown into a noble and towering tree. From the firmneſs of its trunk, and the healthy growth of its expanding head, it already gives a ſtrong protection to the parent plant, on the quarter on which it was moſt expoſed; and holds out the aſſured promiſe of ſhelter and ſecurity, againſt that dark and terrible ſtorm which had long threatened, and muſt at laſt have burſt upon us, and levelled every thing in one general ruin.

This initial fund of a million was not obtained by the impoſition of new taxes; and if it had, and this tract of Mr. Morgan been reviewed by Dr. Price, he would have ſaid, "*it* OUGHT *to have been done, becauſe it* MUST *have been done, or the nation have ſunk**." It was generated by a ſpontaneous increaſe of the revenue by trade, and in the manner we have called gratuitous. The ſame is true likewiſe of the ſubſequent annual grant of 200,000l. money ariſing from the ſame ſource. The annuities for lives, and years fallen in, and amounting to 127,025l. make a third gratuitous part of the fund; and the intereſt of the capitals redeemed by its operation in the whole term, amounting to 1,815,454l. a fourth. The ſum of theſe four articles is 3,596,190l. part of the whole fund of 6,049,003l. Mr. M.'s unreſtricted affirmation therefore fails apparently as to three fifths of the whole.

For the remainder 2,452,813l. it was entirely the product of actual taxation; but not a neat addition to what our total of payment on account of debt would have amounted to without a fund. Here, however, what Mr. M. has ſaid of the whole amount appears ſomewhat colourable; yet ſome part of it, at leaſt, muſt have been of the kind before deſcribed, as appa-

* Rev. Pay. v. i. p. 206.

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rently onerous, but really gratuitous; an addition to the public property, the fund, by the diminution of the intereſt of capital; and Dr. Price, in expreſs words, admits that ſuch diminution is one of the great properties of a ſinking-fund. "The ſtocks," he affirms, "would always be kept up by the operation of the fund, and, in proportion to the ſums yielded by it, the public would be able to borrow money more advantageouſly, and leſs would be added to its burthens*." Now ſums thus pledged to the fund, inſtead of being pledged to the creditor, are relatively gratuitous acquiſitions to it, and the quantum ſo acquired, in the late war, conſiderably exceeded the amount of the grants to the ſinking-fund†.

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* Rev. Pay. vol. i. p. 204.

† This point had been conſidered by us very fully; but the length to which our proceſs ran prevents us from giving it a place here: we ſhall, however, give a ſummary of its reſults. From the tables of ſtock in all paſt periods, the average ratio of the price of the firſt term of 3½ years to the final price of ſtock in peace is known; that is, in all caſes where there is no effective ſinking-fund. In the laſt peace, it thus was ſhown that its price would have been 66·482l. per cent. the actual average of 1792 was ſo high as 89·80l. per cent. particular reaſons determined us to take it at the lower rate of 86·76l. reducing the reſulting advantages of the fund; but even thus it was found, that if the ſtate had begun the war with the ſtocks at the lower price, 66·482l. and had ſuddenly come into the poſſeſſion of a ſinking-fund equal in amount to that at the beginning of the war, as by the falling in of a great maſs of annuities; and it had afterwards received the ſame augments yearly as it actually did; the intereſt of the debt alone would have amounted to 10,952,000l. its true amount was 8,392,439l. the difference of which ſums, 2,559,561l. exceeds the grants to the ſinking-fund by 63,013l.

This is the loſs attending the deferred poſſeſſion of the fund only; but the true queſtion is, what addition would have been made to the total payment for debt, if the ſtate had not come into the poſſeſſion of the fund *per ſaltum*, at the beginning of the war: and it is obvious, that the average of the free-fund for the nine years it laſted having been 3,473,000l. this ſum being taken as employed in every year in the purchaſe of ſtock, intereſt was much lower at the end thereof, or when the loan came to be made, than if there had been no fund; therefore, in that caſe a very great addition muſt have been made to the relatively ſmall difference of total payments, 63,013l.—During the war it was added, that the loans were diminiſhed by divers contributions of a new kind, and ſtock ſupported by the ſale of a part of the land-tax, and that the joint effect of both nearly double that of the ſinking-fund laſt conſidered; yet theſe being means equally applicable with or without a fund, are to be brought to account in neither caſe.

But

Theſe obſervations might have ſufficed on what Mr. M. has ſaid, on the oppreſſive addition made to our taxes to form a ſinking-fund, and the futility of the hope founded on it; but we ſhall add another, as it militates equally againſt that popular error we have above conſidered, and this of Mr. Morgan, having thus a double connection with what precedes. It relates to an unnoticed property of the ſinking-fund, which, when ſtated, will appear alſo a neceſſary ſupplement to what goes before. We therefore conclude by ſhowing that if, in the laſt peace, the increaſe of commerce, and of the value of the ſtocks, were cotemporary, the firſt was ſo far from being

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But as there was a great increaſe of commerce nearly cotemporary with the eſtabliſhment of the fund, and much accelerated in the war, a great part of the ſupport of the ſtocks here attributed intirely to the fund will be, *by moſt*, aſcribed to this argument. Againſt their opinion it was ſhown, that a great permanent addition to the commerce of a ſtate, made in any ſingle year, requiring a great new capital; its effects in the ſtock-market reſembles thoſe of a loan; depreſſing prices either abſolutely, or relatively, by retarding the celerity of their advance: and, at the end of the year, if every other circumſtance went on in its old courſe, a certain portion of the year's profits of the new capital would be brought for purchaſes into the market; and ſo on, in the following years. After the lapſe of a certain number of years, the firſt effect of *raiſing the commercial ſupplies* would be annihilated; and ever after the new profits would raiſe the ſtock, and ſupport it higher than it would have been, if no ſuch ſupply had been called for; but the firſt period, on the moſt favourable ſuppoſitions, is of a conſiderable number of years, and probably not leſs than ten or twelve.

But when new and large demands for permanent capitals yearly ariſe, the depreſſion of the ſtock, whether abſolute or relative, does not ceaſe with the firſt year, as before, but it goes on increaſing to a maximum, which takes place when the effect of the demand of the firſt year ceaſes in the market, or in ten or twelve years. It begins then to decreaſe, until the aggregate effects of the profits of all the new capitals in the market in one year, be equal to that of the demand for new capital in that year, which was ſhown to take place about the expiration of a ſecond term of years, equal to the former; after which, the effect of the paſt increaſe of commerce in every year would exceed that of the continued demand for new capital: and this is the firſt inſtant in which that increaſe would come to ſupport the ſtocks. Hitherto the augment of capital was taken equal in every year, but it is evident that it goes on increaſing the two periods of the maximum, and the ceſſation of depreſſion would be further protracted: and it was ſhown by proper averages, that there had been a very large augmentation of the demand for capital, of the nature deſcribed, during the laſt ſeventeen years; and, that therefore our increaſe of commerce in 1786, and ſince, has not on the balance co-operated with the ſinking-fund to raiſe or ſupport the ſtocks, but has counteracted and diminiſhed its effects.

the cauſe of the ſecond, that the riſe of ſtock, the effect of the ſinking-fund, was one of the great cauſes concurring in that unprecedented augmentation, by creating capital to carry it on, and impelling it into foreign commerce; giving material aid to the ſtate, in rendering the taxes more productive, and augmenting the growing produce of the conſolidated fund.

This cauſe indeed had others ſtrongly co-operating with it, which the proceſs of the proof to be given renders it neceſſary to notice. In the firſt ſix years of peace, the deficit, or enormous floating debt of France, the unſucceſsful efforts to fund which produced the revolution, raiſed the rate of intereſt, and deranged all money-concerns: the effect of this embarraſſed foreign commerce; and the diſtractions of the next four years reduced it to the loweſt ebb. In Holland, internal commotions had the ſame effect, in a proportional though lower degree; the expulſion of the Stadtholder, and his reſtoration by foreign force, were two completed revolutions; and, for ſome years before, the adverſe parties had actually been arming for civil war. Thus, during the peace, a field of commerce, perpetually extending, was vacated to us; and nearer approaches made to that monopoly, which afterward (whether to our good or evil fortune is not here conſidered) we almoſt acquired. That rivality of foreign nations, which might have made us reduce our profits as the European rate of intereſt fell, was weakened yearly: and the markets for our commodities increaſed ſo faſt, that our merchants were under no neceſſity to underſell one another: whence the profits of foreign trade muſt have been taken to have been equal, at leaſt, from the beginning to the end of the peace; and it was the opinion of Joerſens, an intelligent foreign writer, that they increaſed. Let 10l. per cent. therefore be taken as that uniform profit, as leſs favourable to the point to be proved than 15l. the rate aſſumed before, but now departed from, and for the ſame reaſon.

The value of the conſolidated 3 per cents. in January, 1784, had been ſo low as 53⅛l. and in April, in the following year, at 55⅛l. but in March, 1792, they had riſen to 97⅛* per cent. To avoid fractions, in the following illuſtration let the near integer rates, to which intereſt had almoſt riſen and fallen in the term, or 6l. and 3l. per cent. be ſuppoſed to have obtained in the market; together with the correſponding prices of ſtock 50l. and 100l.

A holder of a capital of 20,000l. when the ſtocks are at 50l. can therewith procure 10,000l. for any adventure in trade.

* Tables, New Annual Regiſter for thoſe years. Accrued intereſt not deducted, as in all other places.

Their advance to 60l. increaſes his command of capital by 2,000l. to 75l. by 5,000l. and to par by 10,000l.

The natural price of ſtocks, when the fund was eſtabliſhed in 1786, did not exceed 60 per cent.* and the higheſt rate of intereſt to be taken to account 5 per cent. In March, 1792, their value was increaſed to 97⅛; and as, in the following month, the unfortunate Louis was dragged by his miniſters to the Aſſembly, to propoſe a decree of war againſt Auſtria, cauſing a ſhock in the ſtock market which it never recovered, it may be very well taken that, in a very ſhort time, intereſt would have otherwiſe fallen to 3 per cent. the holder of a capital of 20,000l. at the firſt period, could therewith procure no more than 12,000l. for any adventure in trade; but as the rate of intereſt fell ſucceſſively from 5 to 4½, 4, 3½, and, finally, to 3; and the price of ſtock roſe from 60l. to 66·66l. 75·00l. 85·71l. and 100l.; this ſtockholders original command of mercantile capital 12,000l. would be increaſed ſucceſſively by 1,333l. 3,000l. 5,142l. and when intereſt had fallen to 3 per cent. to which it ultimately very nearly approached, by 8,000l. and thus theſe ſucceſſive advances of the market value of ſtock having been cauſed by the ſinking-fund, theſe differences are parts of the commercial capital created by its operation; which, while it continually diminiſhes the magnitude of the debt, by the aid it gives to every ſpecies of productive induſtry, makes the burthen of the part not yet extinguiſhed, much leſs ſenſibly felt than otherwiſe it would be.

It has been ſeen, that the rate of profit during the whole term is to be taken as fixed, and at 10 per cent. The yearly income of 20,000l. ſtock, at all rates of the market, is fixed alſo, and at 600l. a year. Now, by the change of this capital of income into ſtock in trade, at the firſt value of the funds, or 60l. the holder makes an addition to his income of 600l. and as by the fall of intereſt its ſelling price riſes ſucceſſively to 13,333l. 15 000l. 17,142l. and to 20,000l. that augment will ſucceſſively be increaſed from 600l. a year to 733l. 900l. 1,114l. and, finally, to 1,400l. Notwithſtanding the attack of the Auſtrian dominions by the French, in April, the depoſition of the King, in Auguſt, and Dumouriez's preparation, in November, for the ſiege of the Dutch fortreſs of Maeſtricht, (the ſucceſſive increaſing depreſſions of each of which evidently

* The neat average of the year, ending April, 1786 (the due term to be taken) was 6·371l. per cent. but that there was a ſurplus of the revenue, was known in the latter part of it; and its being deſtined to form a ſinking-fund foreſeen, in all reſpects contrary to a long continued demand for loans foreſeen; the latter depreſſes ſtocks, the other raiſes them, nor is 3·71l. per cent. too much to be taken on this account.

ſhow themſelves in the yearly account) the average price of ſtock in the year 1792 was 89·81. per cent. 20,000l. ſtock would have produced a capital of 17,960l. for trade, yielding a yearly profit of 1,796l. exceeding 600l. the funded income derived from it, by 1,196l. It is evident from this, that many perſons, eſpecially individuals of enterprizing temper, and in the earlier periods of life, who could not be drawn from an unoccupied repoſe into the application and fatigue of buſineſs, for the firſt addition to their income of 600l. a year, would be induced to it, by the higher augmentation of ſome one or other of theſe increaſing differences. The actual advantage to have been reaped in the laſt year, the addition of 1,196l. by which it would have become very nearly trebled, was a motive acting with a force truly impulſive, on a great number of ſtock holders; or, in the words of Sir Matthew Decker, in whoſe tract, among a great deal of ſcoriæ, we find here and there a maſs of metal of the firſt purity; "this reduction of the intereſt of money, muſt have been a great encouragement to trade, *by forcing people to induſtry*, who would otherwiſe live idle on the high intereſt of their money." This perpetual increaſe of the capitals in the command of a certain and numerous claſs of people, and of the force of the motive to make an active uſe of it, muſt have greatly contributed, in conjunction with the cauſes we have before enumerated, to the increaſe which took place in our foreign trade. Two great conſequences immediately depend upon this; the firſt, that theſe ſales, checking, in ſome degree, the advance of the price of ſtock, which the fund would cauſe without ſuch counterbalance, preſerves to it more of its original power to reduce the debt; and the ſecond, that our pre-exiſting permanent taxes were thereby rendered more productive; the average of their amount, for the years 1785 and 1786, taken at that obtaining at the eſtabliſhment of the fund in 1786*, was 11,985,000l. in each of the years following, to the end of 1792, their produce was augmented; and, in the laſt year, became 14,284,000l. exceeding the firſt by 3,299,000l.

Such augmentations, ariſing from a ſource beneficial at once to the treaſury and the nation, when a ſinking fund is become *powerful*, are applicable to the remiſſions of taxes ſo ſelected, as to remove ſome greater burthens, with the leaſt ſacrifice on the part of the treaſury; to provide for the greater exceſſes of unforeſeen expences in peace, above the average yearly allowance to be always made on that head, or to its own direct aug-

* There was a ſmall fall in this amount in 1786, the average is therefore taken to ſupply the deficiency.

mentation. By this effect of the fund on the revenue, it eaſes the people; ſecures its own ſtability, by guarding againſt thoſe accidents which began by diminiſhing, and terminated by deſtroying the former; and provides another ſource of increaſe to itſelf, in addition to compound intereſt. The fund is now therefore become the noble column of public ſecurity, carried to a majeſtic height; augmented in ſtrength on every ſide, far beyond the proportion of the increaſed weight impoſed upon it; and on its firm and ample baſe, which the ſelf-denying virtue of the preſent generation (taking on itſelf the accumulated charges of the freedom, the ſecurity, the growing greatneſs of our anceſtors, ourſelves, and our poſterity) will regard with the veneration once paid to the *Capitoli immobile ſaxum*, juſtice will inſcribe the name of its great architect*; and the juſtice of every future generation will guard it from being obliterated.

ART. VI. *Account of the Life and Writings of William Robertſon, D. D. F. R. S. E. late Principal of the Univerſity of Edinburgh, and Hiſtoriographer to his Majeſty for Scotland. (Read before the Royal Society of Edinburgh.)* 8vo. Balfour, Edinburgh; Cadell and Davies, London. 1801.

NO ſpecies of writing is more intereſting to a reader of reflection than Biography. There have been few lives of which a faithful account would not convey both amuſement and inſtruction to ſome perſon; and in the life of a man of eminence, all who aſpire themſelves to ſimilar eminence, expect to find an example fit for imitation. To give this intereſt and utility to the detail of the events of a private life, is not however a taſk which any one may perform; for the writer ought to bring to it not only a ſufficient knowledge of the facts which he means to relate, but alſo an intimate acquaintance with human nature, and with the particular circumſtances in which the ſubject of his memoir was placed. Hence the ableſt biographers in all ages have been men, who were at once maſters of moral ſcience, and converſant in the living world. Such were Plutarch, and Tacitus, and Johnſon; and ſuch is the author of the account before us.

Of Profeſſor Stewart's acquaintance with moral ſcience no doubt can be entertained by thoſe, who have peruſed with at-

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* See Morgan, p. 16. If an inſcription ſhould be made to *his* memory, it can only be placed on the ruins of public credit.

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tention his *Elements of the Philoſophy of the Human Mind;* and, whatever may be his knowledge of the world at large, he cannot poſſibly be a ſtranger to that part of it, with which Dr. Robertſon was particularly connected, and where his uncommon abilities were ſo long diſplayed. Theſe circumſtances rendered him eminently qualified for the office which his dying friend impoſed upon him; and his narrative derives an additional claim to the public favour, from its having been read before the Royal Society of Edinburgh, of which Dr. Robertſon may be conſidered as the founder. To Mr. Stewart's biography, however, it will probably be objected, as it has been to Johnſon's, that while the narrative is deficient, the reflections are redundant; and that the book is rather a criticiſm on Dr. Robertſon's works, than an account of his habits and manners in private life. The objection, if it ſhould be made, will not eaſily be removed; for, ſhould it be pleaded, as it has often been, that the events of private life flow in a ſtream too even and unvaried to afford important materials to the biographer, the reply is ready:—the life of Dr. Robertſon was far from private. He was for many years the leader of a great popular aſſembly; and, to ſecure his influence for ſo long a period, he muſt have converſed with ſo many men, on ſuch a variety of topics; muſt have had his patience and good nature ſo often put to the teſt; and enjoyed ſo many opportunities, as well in private as in public, of diſplaying his addreſs, that, with ſufficient induſtry, Mr. Stewart might ſurely have enriched his biography with a number of incidents and anecdotes, for which the reader will in vain look in this elegant little volume.

From it we learn, that William Robertſon, D. D. ſo well known in the republic of letters, was the ſon of the Reverend William Robertſon, who was miniſter, firſt, of Borthwick, and afterwards of one of the churches in Edinburgh. The hiſtorian was born at Borthwick in 1721, and received the rudiments of his education at the ſchool of Dalkeith, then taught by Mr. Leſlie, a man of uncommon eminence in his profeſſion. In 1733, he entered on his courſe of academical ſtudy in the univerſity of Edinburgh, and devoted his time and attention chiefly to rhetoric, logic, and moral philoſophy; the bent of his genius not inclining him to mathematical or phyſical purſuits.

"A number of learned and reſpectable men," ſays Mr. Stewart, "of whoſe names the greater part now exiſt in tradition only, were then reſident in Edinburgh. A club or ſociety of theſe carried on for ſome years a private correſpondence with Dr. Berkeley, the celebrated Biſhop of Cloyne, on the ſubject of his metaphyſical publica-

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tions; and are ſaid to have been numbered by him among the few who completely comprehended the ſcope of his reaſonings againſt the exiſtence of *matter*."

If the biographer means to ſay, that Dr. Robertſon was a member of the club, which thus privately correſponded with the Biſhop of Cloyne, there can be little doubt of his having been miſled by inaccurate information. A friend of ours happened to ſee the ſon of that prelate introduced to the Principal for the firſt time, and heard the latter ſay many handſome things to the former of the ingenuity and the virtues of his father; but he ſaid not one word of ſuch a correſpondence as this, which he could hardly have avoided, had it paſſed between the Biſhop and a club of which he was himſelf a member. We have, however, good reaſon to believe that, about the year 1725, when Dr. Berkeley was in London, ſoliciting the eſtabliſhment of his college at Bermuda, many letters did paſs between him and ſome ingenious gentlemen in Edinburgh; and that one of thoſe gentlemen came to the metropolis to converſe with him, when he talked ſo extravagantly on metaphyſical ſubjects, that the Dean (for he was not then a Biſhop) thought him mad, and ordered his door in future to be ſhut againſt him.

Dr. Robertſon, whoſe laudable ambition appeared at an early period of life, ſeems to have cultivated polite letters more than metaphyſics. To this courſe of ſtudy he was led by the Profeſſor of Logic's (Dr. Stevenſon) illuſtrations of Ariſtotle's Poetics, and of Longinus on the Sublime; and, in order to attain an Engliſh ſtyle of purity and elegance, he employed himſelf in tranſlating the Greek and Latin claſſics.

"Anxious to diſtinguiſh himſelf by the utility of his labours in that profeſſion to which he had reſolved to devote his talents, and looking forward, it is probable, to the active ſhare he was afterwards to take in the eccleſiaſtical policy of Scotland, he aſpired to add to the art of claſſical compoſition the powers of a perſuaſive and commanding ſpeaker. With this view, he united with ſome of his contemporaries, during the laſt years of his attendance at college, in the formation of a ſociety, where their object was to cultivate the ſtudy of elocution, and to prepare themſelves, by the habits of extemporary diſcuſſion and debate, for conducting the buſineſs of popular aſſemblies."

His ſtudies at the univerſity being finiſhed, he was licenſed to preach the Goſpel, when only twenty years of age; and, in 1743, when not more than twenty-two, he was preſented by the Earl of Hopeton to the living of Gladſmuir, in Eaſt Lothian, of a hundred pounds a year. This Mr. Stewart calls inconſiderable; but if, in Scotland, a country-living of one hundred pounds a year was inconſiderable, ſixty years ago, we have been miſinformed as to the poverty of the Scotiſh church;

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for we have here more country-livings than all Scotland contains, which are of no greater value at preſent.

Dr. Robertſon's father and mother dying ſoon after this period, within a few hours of each other, he invited their family, conſiſting of ſix daughters and a younger ſon, to Gladſmuir, and continued to educate his ſiſters under his own roof, till they were reſpectably ſettled in the world. Having diſcharged this ſacred duty, he married, in 1751, his couſin, Miſs Mary Niſbet, daughter of the reverend Mr. Niſbet, one of the miniſters of Edinburgh.

While he was engaged in thoſe pious offices, which had devolved upon him by the ſudden death of his parents, the rebellion of 1745 broke out in Scotland, and afforded him an opportunity of evincing the ſincerity of that zeal, for the civil and religious liberties of his country, which he had imbibed with the firſt principles of his education. When the capital of Scotland was ſeen to be in danger of falling into the hands of the rebels, he laid aſide, for a time, the pacific habits of his profeſſion, quitted his reſidence at Gladſmuir, and joined the volunteers of Edinburgh; and when the city was ſurrendered, he was one of a ſmall band who repaired to Haddington, and offered their ſervices to the commander of his Majeſty's forces. Whether theſe ſervices were accepted, we are not told; but Dr. Robertſon appears to have acted, for ſome time, in the double capacity of clergyman and ſoldier, diſcharging the duties of his ſacred function on Sunday, and bearing arms for his ſovereign through the week.

In 1755, he publiſhed a Sermon, which he had preached before the Society [in Scotland] for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge; and though it has been long ranked (according to his biographer) among the beſt models of pulpit eloquence; has undergone five editions, and is known on the continent in the German tranſlation of Mr. Ebeling, it is ſomewhat remarkable that he never publiſhed another*.

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* Since this article was written, we have been favoured with a peruſal of Dr. Robertſon's Sermon, and think it well entitled to the rank which Mr. Stewart aſſigns to it among models of pulpit eloquence. The ſtyle is eaſy, nervous, and animated; and the author is peculiarly happy in his uſe of ſcriptural phraſes, which, when naturally introduced, add much to the dignity of ſuch compoſitions. The ſubject is *the ſituation of the world at the time of Chriſt's appearance, and its connection with the ſucceſs of his religion*; on which many ideas ſeem to have been ſuggeſted to the preacher by Dr. Law's *Conſiderations on the Theory of Religion*, then lately publiſhed. We need not add that, in the pages of Dr. Robertſon, they have attractions which Dr. Law was incapable of giving them.

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In 1751, he had made his firſt appearance in the debates of the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland, and began that career, which he continued for thirty years with ſuch honour to himſelf, and ſuch advantages to the eccleſiaſtical conſtitution of his country. To the law of patronage, reſtored by Queen Anne, there was ſuch a deep-rooted prejudice in the minds of the Scottiſh Preſbyterians that, till after the year 1730, no clergyman was inducted into a living, in conſequence of being preſented to it by the patron; and we believe that ſuch preſentations were generally rejected by the young candidates for clerical fame. Even after they began to be accepted, the Eccleſiaſtical Courts required them to be accompanied with what they termed a *call* of the pariſh, before they would inſtitute the preſentee; but not having determined what number of voters made a ſufficient *call*, it was in the power of the majority of any Preſbytery to ſet aſide the legal rights of the patron by their own caprice, or perſonal diſlike, either of him or of the young man whom he had preſented to the living. This was often done in the moſt iniquitous manner, and occaſioned appeals, by the patron and preſentee, from the Preſbytery to the Provincial Synod, and from the Synod to the General Aſſembly of the Church. Even thoſe appeals did not always produce redreſs; for, though the Aſſembly generally ordered the Preſbytery to induct the preſentee, that court often diſregarded the order; and when it did not, obeyed it with ſuch open and indecent reluctance, as to ſow the ſeeds of perpetual diſſention between the pariſh and its miniſter. The Aſſembly complained of this conduct of the inferior courts, and ſometimes threatened their members with heavy cenſures; but it only threatened, being afraid to puniſh.

Dr. Robertſon clearly perceived that the continuance of theſe abuſes, and relaxation of diſcipline, muſt ſooner or later overturn the church, and transform what was one compact body into a number of independent congregations; and his vigorous and enlightened mind ſuggeſted to him the neceſſity of more deciſive meaſures, to maintain the authority of the church over all her members. Yet, when he firſt ſubmitted his ideas on this ſubject to the Aſſembly of 1751, they were ſo contrary to the prevailing prejudices, that although he enforced them with extraordinary eloquence, and was moſt ably ſupported by two lay members of rank and learning, he was left in a very ſmall minority; the houſe dividing two hundred againſt eleven. He was not, however, to be overawed by age, or intimidated by numbers; but perſevered in his purpoſe, till he reſcued the Scottiſh church from the very brink of anarchy, and contributed more than all his brethren to make her what

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ſhe now is, a moſt reſpectable ſociety. For more than twenty years he guided the reins of her diſcipline, and had as much influence in her General Aſſemblies as the ableſt and moſt popular miniſter, in the Britiſh Houſe of Commons.

In 1754, Mr. Allan Ramſay, the painter, and ſon of the poet of the ſame name, inſtituted a ſociety in Edinburgh, for the purpoſes of philoſophical inquiry, and the improvement of its members in public ſpeaking. It was called the *Select Society*, and conſiſted of the men moſt eminent for talents and literature in Edinburgh and its neighbourhood, among whom, Dr. Robertſon appeared to great advantage. In 1757, he diſplayed his talents in defence of ſome of his brethren, who were threatened with eccleſiaſtical cenſures for having witneſſed the firſt repreſentation of the Tragedy of Douglas on the Edinburgh ſtage; and his arguments had the greater weight, as he had never himſelf been within the walls of a play-houſe.

On the 1ſt of February, 1759, was publiſhed his Hiſtory of Scotland, and received by the world with ſuch unbounded applauſe, that before the end of the month he was deſired by his bookſeller to prepare for a ſecond edition. Mr. Stewart's criticiſm on this work is elegant, and for the moſt part judicious; but he ſwells his volume, we think, needleſsly, by long extracts from complimentary letters to the author, ſome of them of very little value; and his uſual impartiality and good ſenſe muſt have deſerted him, when, to eſtabliſh the character of his friend, as "the moſt faithful of hiſtorians," he quotes the opinion of Mr. Laing, without noticing the very different opinion of the able Whitaker.

Propoſals ſeem to have been made to Dr. Robertſon, about this period, to take orders in the Church of England; but theſe he prudently rejected. In the learning moſt likely to lead to high preferment in our church, he would have found many equals, and ſome ſuperiors; and that commanding eloquence ſo fit to direct the deliberation of a popular aſſembly, which gave him ſo much weight in his own country, could not here have been of the ſmalleſt uſe to him, unleſs he had obtained a ſeat in the Houſe of Peers, on the bench of biſhops. Even there, his Scottiſh accent, and probably imperfect knowledge of our conſtitution, civil and eccleſiaſtical; together with the ſtigma which muſt always accompany every kind of apoſtacy in a clergyman, would for ever have prevented him from taking a lead in the debates of the Houſe. He acted even a more uſeful part, in guiding the unwieldy machine of the Scottiſh church, than he could have hoped to act in the Church of England.

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" In the mean time, preferments at home flowed rapidly upon him. In 1759, he was appointed Chaplain of Stirling Caſtle; in 1761, one of his Majeſty's Chaplains in Ordinary, for Scotland; and, in 1762, he was choſen Principal of the Univerſity of Edinburgh. Two years afterwards, the office of the King's Hiſtoriographer for Scotland (with a ſalary of 200l. a year) was revived in his favor;" and he now poſſeſſed a revenue far exceeding what had ever been enjoyed before by any Preſbyterian clergyman in Scotland.

Riches, however, did not render him idle, or interrupt for a moment the progreſs of his ſtudies. After much deliberation on the ſubject of another hiſtorical work, he at laſt fixed upon the reign of the Emperor Charles V. of which he publiſhed the Hiſtory in 1769, in three volumes, 4to. His reputation was now ſo well eſtabliſhed, that for the copy-right of this work, he received no leſs a price than 4,500l. and the reader who is not acquainted with its merits (if there be any ſuch reader) may have recourſe to the criticiſm of Mr. Stewart. It has the ſame merit with his criticiſm on the Hiſtory of Scotland, and is incumbered with ſimilar extracts of complimentary letters, which ſerve principally to ſhow how living authors can flatter one another, and how little, on ſuch occaſions, they weigh the force of their expreſſions.

" After an interval of eight years from the publication of Charles the Fifth, Dr. Robertſon produced the Hiſtory of America;—a work, which by the variety of reſearch and of ſpeculation that it exhibits, enables us to form a ſufficient idea of the manner in which he had employed the intervening period."

Here again we have much ſound criticiſm by the biographer, and much high compliment from the author's literary correſpondents. The following remark is unqueſtionably juſt.

" I cannot help remarking (what appears ſtill more characteriſtical of this, than of any of Dr. Robertſon's other works) the comprehenſive ſurvey which he has taken of his vaſt and various ſubject, and the ſkilful arrangement by which he has beſtowed connexion and ſymmetry on a maſs of materials ſo ſhapeleſs and disjointed. The penetration and ſagacity diſplayed in his delineation of ſavage manners, and the unbiaſſed good ſenſe with which he has contraſted that ſtate of ſociety with civilized life (a ſpeculation in the proſecution of which ſo many of his predeceſſors had loſt themſelves in vague declamation, or in paradoxical refinement) have been much and deſervedly admired."

In conſequence of this publication, he was, on the 8th of Auguſt, 1777, unanimouſly elected a member of the Royal Academy of Hiſtory at Madrid; though it appears that the literary men of Spain did not, every one, approve of the

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History of America. In 1781, he was elected one of the foreign members of the Academy of Sciences at Padua; in 1783, one of the foreign members of the Imperial Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburgh: and from the last of these cities he was honoured with another flattering distinction by the Empress herself. She transmitted to him a very handsome enamelled gold snuff-box, richly set with diamonds, desiring his acceptance of it as a mark of her esteem; adding, that a person whose labours had afforded her so much satisfaction, merited some attention from her.

Dr. Robertson, in the Preface to his History of America,

"announced his intention to resume the subject at some future period; suspending, in the mean time, the execution of that part of his plan which related to the British settlements, on account of the *ferment* which then agitated our North American Colonies. A fragment of this intended work, which has been published since his death, while it illustrates the persevering ardor of his mind, must excite a lively regret in all who read it, that a History so peculiarly calculated by its subject to co-extend his fame with the future progress of our language in the regions beyond the Atlantic, had not added to the other monuments of his genius."

He dropt it however altogether, probably because the American revolution was too recent for him to write, or the public to read, with impartiality; but the activity of his mind continued unimpaired; and in the 68th year of his age he began his disquisition concerning ancient India, which, in twelve months, he brought to a conclusion. It was published in 1791; and though it could not have the popular attractions of his former works, it exhibits, as Mr. Stewart truly observes, "a diligence in research, a soundness of judgment, and a perspicuity of method, not inferior to those which distinguish his other performances."

This useful life was now drawing towards a close; his health, which hitherto had been uniformly good, began apparently to decline in the end of the year 1791, when he suddenly exhibited strong symptoms of jaundice, which terminated in a lingering and fatal illness.

"At his particular desire," says Mr. Stewart, "I saw him, for the last time, on the 4th of June, 1793, when his weakness confined him to his couch, and his articulation was already beginning to fail; and it is in obedience to a request with which he then honoured me, that I have thus ventured, without consulting my own powers, to offer this tribute to his memory. He died on the 11th of the same month, in the 71st year of his age."

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Of his intellectual and moral character this author ſpeaks highly, and, we are perſuaded, juſtly, when he ſays,

" that the ſame ſagacity and good ſenſe which ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed him as a writer, guided his conduct in life, and rendered his counſels of ineſtimable value to his friends. He was not forward in offering advice; but when conſulted, as he very frequently was, by his younger acquaintance, he entered into their concerns with the moſt lively intereſt, and ſeemed to have a pleaſure and a pride in imparting to them all the lights of his experience and wiſdom. Good ſenſe was indeed the moſt prominent feature in his intellectual character; and it is unqueſtionably of all the qualities of the underſtanding, that which eſſentially conſtitutes ſuperiority of mind: for, although we are ſometimes apt to appropriate the appellation of genius to certain peculiarities in the intellectual habits, it is he only who diſtinguiſhes himſelf from the reſt of mankind, by thinking better than they on the ſame ſubjects, who fairly brings his powers into compariſon with others. This was in a remarkable degree the caſe of Dr. Robertſon. He was not eminent for metaphyſical acuteneſs; nor did he eaſily enter into ſpeculations involving mathematical or mechanical ideas; but in thoſe endowments which lay the foundation of ſucceſsful conduct, and which fit a man to acquire an influence over others, he had no ſuperior. Among thoſe who have, like him, devoted the greater part of life to ſtudy, perhaps it would be difficult to find his equal.

" His practical acquaintance with human nature was great, and he poſſeſſed the ſoundeſt and moſt accurate notions of the characters of thoſe with whom he was accuſtomed to aſſociate. In that quick penetration, indeed, which reads the ſoul, and eſtimates the talents of others by a ſort of intuition, he was ſurpaſſed by many; and I have often known him been miſled by firſt impreſſions; but where he had an opportunity of continuing his obſervations for a length of time, he ſeldom failed in forming concluſions equally juſt, refined, and profound. In a general knowledge of the world, and of the ways of men, his ſuperiority was ſtriking and indiſputable; ſtill more ſo, in my opinion, than in the judgment he formed of individuals. Nor is this ſurpriſing, when we conſider the joint influence of his habits as an hiſtorian, and as a political leader.

" Too much cannot be ſaid of his moral qualities. Exemplary and amiable in the offices of private life, he exhibited in his public conduct, a rare union of political firmneſs with candor and moderation. " He enjoyed," ſays Dr. Erſkine, " the bounties of Providence without running into riot; was temperate without auſterity; condeſcending and affable without meanneſs; and in expence neither ſordid nor prodigal. He could feel an injury, and yet bridle his paſſion; was grave, not ſullen; ſteady, not obſtinate; friendly, not officious; prudent and cautious, not timid." The praiſe," continues Mr. Stewart, " is liberal; and it is expreſſed with the cordial warmth of friendſhip; but it comes from one who had the beſt opportunity of knowing the truth, as he had enjoyed Dr. Robertſon's intimacy from his childhood, and was afterwards, for more than twenty years, his colleague in the ſame church; while his zealous attachment to a different ſyſtem of ecclesiaſtical

eccleſiaſtical government, though it never impaired his affection for the companion of his youth, exempts him from any ſuſpicion of undue partiality." P. 204.

It is needleſs, after ſuch a ſpecimen, to inform our readers, that this account of the Life and Writings of Dr. Robertſon is well-written. It is in a ſtyle of claſſical elegance very ſuperior to the ordinary run of modern biography; nor do we recollect a ſingle phraſe in the whole work that offended us, except one which occurs firſt in the title-page. The *Principal of a Univerſity* is a magiſtrate unknown in England; and we ſtrongly ſuſpect that the phraſe is improper even in Scotland. We could not ſay the Principal of the Univerſity of *Oxford*, of *Cambridge*, or of *St. Andrew's*, without abſurdity; and though there is at preſent but one college in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, as there was originally but one college in Oxford, we ſuppoſe there is nothing in the deed of foundation prohibiting as many colleges from being built within the precincts of the one Univerſity, as there have been built within the precincts, and under the juriſdiction, of the other.

Beſides the intereſt which every Briton muſt feel in the life of an hiſtorian, whoſe writings do honour to the taſte and literature of his country, this little volume has other attractions to an Engliſhman. Among theſe, it ſhould not be omitted, that it contains the fulleſt and moſt intelligible account that we have ſeen of the conſtitution of the Church of Scotland, and of the two great parties into which ſhe appears to be divided.

ART. VII. *Gulielmi Heberden Commentarii de Morborum hiſtoria et curatione.* 8vo. 417 pp. 7s. 6d.

ART. VIII. *Commentaries on the Hiſtory and Cure of Diſeaſes. By William Heberden, M. D.* 8vo. 483 pp. 7s. 6d. Payne. 1802.

THESE two editions of the work were publiſhed at the ſame time; the one in Latin, the other in Engliſh: both written, and prepared for the preſs, as it ſhould ſeem, by the author, but with ſome variations, which it is proper to mention. In the Latin edition, the author has given a ſhort account of his life, which is not inſerted in the Engliſh; and to the Latin copy the editor, the Doctor's ſon, has added a Dedication to the King, in the ſame language, and written in a ſtyle of elegance ſuited to the Commentaries. As the Engliſh copy

copy has neither the account of the life of the author, nor the Dedication, this deficiency is compenſated by a conciſe and neat Preface, a part of which only is found in the Latin. The firſt paſſage of this, ſhowing what were the motives of the author in collecting theſe obſervations, it may not be amiſs to tranſcribe.

"Plutarch," he ſays, "has obſerved, that the life of a veſtal virgin was divided into three portions; in the firſt of which, ſhe learned the duties of her profeſſion, in the ſecond ſhe practiſed them, and in the third ſhe taught them to others. This is no bad model," he adds, "for the life of a phyſician; and as I have paſſed through the two firſt of theſe ſeaſons," in learning and practiſing the duties of his profeſſion, "I am willing to employ the remainder of my days in teaching what I have learned to others."

The diſtinguiſhed character the author bore, and the great age he attained, making every thing relating to him highly intereſting, we will give our readers the few notices he has left us of himſelf, which may ſerve until ſome other writer ſhall favour the public with a more ample account.

The author was born, he ſays, in London, in the year 1710, where he received the rudiments of his education. In 1724, he was admitted into St. John's College at Cambridge, and ſix years after was elected one of the Fellows. Having made choice of the profeſſion of phyſic, he directed his endeavours to the attainment of the knowledge of that art, reſiding for that purpoſe partly at London and partly at Cambridge, until he took the degree of Doctor. He now fixed at Cambridge, and continued to practiſe medicine there for ten years, teaching the hiſtory and uſe of the materia medica, during that time, to the academical ſtudents. In 1746, he was choſen Fellow of the College of Phyſicians, and two years after removed to London; to the great regret, we will add, of the place he left, where the mildneſs of his manners, and the opinion already formed of his profeſſional abilities, had procured him the general eſteem of the inhabitants. On coming to London, he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society, and for more than thirty years enjoyed a large ſhare of practice in the metropolis. The advanced period of his life at length admoniſhing him, he ſays, of the propriety of diminiſhing his labours, with the view of effecting that purpoſe, he retired, during the ſummers, to a houſe he had at Windſor, returning to London in the winter, and continuing, during that ſeaſon, for a few years longer, his attendance on the ſick. In the year 1776, he recommended to the College of Phyſicians to publiſh ſuch obſervations occurring to them in their practice, as might tend to improve the ſcience of medicine; and two volumes,

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afterwards followed by a third, were publiſhed, under the title of Tranſactions of the College. In the year 1778, Dr. H. ſays, he was made Member of the Royal Society of Medicine at Paris; but from a liſt of the Members of that Society, now before us, it appears, that the diploma conſtituting the Doctor an Aſſociate is dated Auguſt, 1776, though by ſome accident, it is probable, it was not tranſmitted to him until the year 1778. Several Eſſays, by Dr. Heberden, on medical and philoſophical ſubjects, were, during this time, printed in the Philoſophical Tranſactions, and in the volumes publiſhed by the College of Phyſicians. In the year 1801, being now more than ninety years of age, he died, in the ſame placid and tranquil manner, the editor ſays, he had lived.

As the author himſelf has deſcribed his mode of collecting and arranging the materials for the Commentaries, it may not be amiſs to lay that part alſo before our readers, as a guide to perſons wiſhing to make a ſimilar uſe of their obſervations.

He always took notes, he ſays, while in the ſick room, of ſuch things as either were obſerved, or were communicated to him by the patients or aſſiſtants, that ſeemed deſerving conſideration. Theſe notes, taken haſtily, were read over by him regularly every month, and ſuch parts of them as tended to throw light on the hiſtory of diſeaſes, or the effects of medicines, tranſcribed into another book, under the title of the diſeaſe to which they belonged; and from this book, when he was in the ſeventy-ſecond year of his age, he made up theſe Commentaries, which he gave to his ſon, then engaged in the ſtudy of medicine. In forming the volume, he was careful to inſert nothing but what were found in his obſervations, thinking it better, he ſays, that the accounts of the diſeaſes ſhould be imperfect, than that their deficiencies ſhould be made up with extracts from other works, or taken from memory, excepting in a very few caſes, where he was certain his memory might be depended on.

From a work thus formed, the fruit of many years obſervation, and containing only ſuch things as were actually ſeen to happen, much may reaſonably be expected; and indeed this will be found to be one of the few books on medicine that cannot be too frequently recurred to, "nocturnâ verſate manu, verſate diurnâ". Here are no theories to miſlead, no forced claſſification of diſeaſes, no boaſts of extraordinary ſucceſs from certain modes of treating, or of the miraculous powers of certain favourite remedies in curing them; remedies that, in the hands of their inventors, were never found to fail, but in the hands of no one elſe were ever found to ſucceed. Every thing here finds its juſt place and value, for as the author

was

was too wiſe to be deceived, ſo he was too honeſt to deceive others. Though he had received the beſt education the country affords, though he had read and learned the hiſtory of diſeaſes from the beſt authors, ancient and modern, and perfectly comprehended them, yet, determining to take nothing on truſt, he entered no ſymptoms in his Commentaries, as pertaining to any diſeaſe, but what he found really attending it; and though perfectly acquainted with the materia medica, and with the properties aſcribed to each article, he allowed them only ſuch powers as, from experience, he found them actually poſſeſſing.

Having given this account of the nature of the work, we ſhall ſelect a few of the obſervations, ſuch as relate to circumſtances not ordinarily known, or as may tend to correct ſome common and generally received, but erroneous, opinions. We ſhall take theſe from the Engliſh copy, and alphabetically, the order in which the diſeaſes are treated and arranged; and, in concluſion, ſhall give a paſſage or two from the Latin, as ſpecimens of the author's ſtyle and manner of writing in that language, in the knowledge of which, he was allowed to excel.

"Abortus. A woman who was with child of twins, miſcarried of one at the end of three months, but went on with the other, who was born at the proper time, and lived to maturity." P. 15.

"Angina and Scarlet Fever. There is no other diſtemper in which a delirium is of ſo little importance as in this: in other fevers it ſeldom comes on till they have arrived at a dangerous height; but it ſometimes accompanies a ſcarlet fever on the very firſt day; and many of theſe patients never fail to be light-headed every night, though, except this, there be no unfavourable ſymptom, through the whole courſe of the illneſs.

"The ſmall-pox is not more infectious than this malady among children, and young perſons of both ſexes." P. 21.

As they advance in life they become leſs liable to the diſeaſe, and men ſtill leſs than women. In proportion alſo as they advance in life, the diſeaſe is milder and leſs dangerous.

Of the infectious ſore throat, the author ſays, p. 25, "ſometimes it is ſo ſlight as to require no remedies, and ſometimes ſo violent as to admit of no relief." A ſentiment ſimilar to an obſervation of Dr. Mead on the ſmall-pox; "ſometimes it is ſo malignant and violent," he ſays, "that no phyſician can cure, and ſometimes ſo mild that no old nurſe can kill the perſons infected with it." It is obſervable, the diſeaſe is called ſimply Angina, in the title to the chapter, the author conceiving it not to differ from the milder form of it, only in degree.

The

The author was not able to aſcertain clearly how long the virus of the diſeaſe may lie in the body before it produces its ſpecific effect. In ſome inſtances, ſymptoms of the diſeaſe appeared on the fifth day from the time the perſons were expoſed to the infection, which may probably, he thinks, be the uſual time. It has been aſked, whether perſons may be infected with ſcarlet-fever a ſecond time? The author had ſeen the diſeaſe a ſecond and third time in the ſame ſubject, or what was ſuppoſed to be ſo, but never to any marked or ſevere degree, and ſeems to have thought that, like the ſmall-pox, it never affects the ſame perſon ſeriouſly more than once.

Aphthæ. It has been ſuppoſed that Aphthæ, when inveterate, are continued from the mouth and fauces, through the whole inteſtinal canal.

"In two who died," the author ſays, "of a lingering fever, and whoſe mouths were covered with aphthæ, which hung in rags all over them, there was not the leaſt trace of them that could be found, on diſſection, beyond the fauces." P. 31.

Arthritis. The obſervations on arthritis or gout, are extended to a conſiderable length, as indeed the importance of the ſubject, and the vague and contradictory notions entertained concerning it, demanded. The author cenſures the folly of conſidering the gout as friendly to the conſtitution, by freeing it from other diſeaſes, as well as the too general cuſtom of imputing pains, and various other affections, the effects of intemperance, and ſigns of a general decay of the frame, to latent gout; and ſhows the impropriety in theſe caſes, of having recourſe to wine and ſpirits, with a view of fixing the ſuppoſed gout, and driving it to the extremities. He thinks our fears of bleeding in the gout, as a general principle of acting in the complaint, are not well founded. Under certain circumſtances, he had known it uſed with advantage. "The great Dr. Harvey uſed," the author was informed, "upon the firſt approach of gouty pains in his foot, to put them off, by plunging the leg into a pail of cold water." P. 49. A gentleman now living, well known to the writer of this article, has followed this practice ſeveral years, and with conſiderable advantage; the pain being conſtantly mitigated, and the fit of the gout ſhortened, by the immerſion; a circumſtance, evincing that the danger of repelling gout is not ſo great as is generally imagined. The whole of this chapter, and the obſervations on aſthma, on Bath-waters, on hypochondriacal affections, on diſeaſes of the liver, and, indeed, with few exceptions, the whole of the volume, will be read by intelligent perſons, who are not,

as well as thoſe within the pale of the profeſſion of medicine, with advantage. Perhaps in ſome inſtances the author may appear to be too ſceptical, and to place too little dependence on the power of medicine in curing diſeaſes; but, beſides that it was difficult for a perſon, who was every day witneſs to the fallacy of the characters given to various articles of the materia medica, to avoid ſome little bias that way, it will be conſidered, that it is an error on the ſafe ſide. Where the powers of any medicine were great and obvious, it was impoſſible for him to avoid perceiving them; where on the other hand they were doubtful, it was better he ſhould ſuppoſe them to have rather leſs than more than they really poſſeſſed.

The account of Briſtol-water is ſhort, and will not readily perhaps be admitted to be juſt.

"The water of Briſtol is celebrated for its purity, and for its virtues in conſumptions, and ſeveral weakneſſes. It has certainly no claim," the author ſays, "to be thought a pure water; and as far as my experience goes, it has as little juſt pretence to any of the medicinal virtues which it has been thought to poſſeſs." P. 79.

But Briſtol-water, though not perfectly pure, is one of the pureſt ſpring-waters known, and is particularly valuable on this account, that it may be kept almoſt for any length of time, and in any climate, without becoming putrid, or loſing its tranſparency. Hence large quantities of it are ſent to the Eaſt and Weſt-Indies, where it is much eſteemed; but, in reſpect to its ſuppoſed efficacy in curing conſumption, or any other diſeaſe, we readily join with Dr. H. in ſaying that no proofs have come to our knowledge of its poſſeſſing ſuch properties. In p. 334, we have a curious caſe of nyctalopia, or night-blindneſs, only affecting the patient when on board his ſhip. This was printed in the firſt volume of Medical Tranſactions. In the ſecond volume of that work, the author gave an account of a diſorder in the breaſt, firſt noticed by him, as he then imagined, to which he gave the name of angina pectoris. This account is here republiſhed, but conſiderably enlarged and improved, with a ſhort paſſage from Cælius Aurelianus, ſlightly, as he obſerves, noticing the complaint. "Eraſiſtratus," that writer ſays, "memorat paralyſeos genus, et paradoxon appellat, quo ambulantes repente ſiſtuntur, ut ambulare non poſſunt, et tum rurſum ambulare ſinuntur." We ſhall cloſe our account of this very intereſting volume, by inſerting a caſe of catalepſy, from p. 307.

"*Hiſtoria Fœminæ Catalepticæ.*

"Die Junii 26to, anno 1764. In noſocomio S. Thomæ vidi fœminam ſex et triginta annos natam, acceſſione cataleptica congelatam. Pulſus

Pulſus erat plane naturalis. Placide ſpirabat. Aſpectus oris erat, qualis illorum qui intentis oculis et immotis palpebris aliquid contemplantur; non qualis moribundorum, aut ægrotantium, aut cum dolore aliquo aut mœſtitia conflictantium. Omnia membra iſtum ſitum ſervabant, quem aſtantes cuique dediſſent, utcunque incommodum. Extendi brachium, et vidi illud extentum permanere in tertiam horæ partem: audivi id antea ita permanſiſſe ultra horam; quod vix quiſquam ſanus facere valeret. Immo fertur extenta manu ſeptem librarum pondus ſuſtinuiſſe. Si ægra in rectum conſtituta fuiſſet, recta maneret; neque levi impulſu conſideret. Sedenti ambo crura extenta ſunt, et a terra ſublata, quæ in hoc ſitu incommodo reſtabant, quaſi ex argilla ſequaci aut cera facta fuiſſent. Os clauſum eſt, neque ulla vi potui maxillas diducere. Palpebræ apertæ fuerunt; aut ſi vi clauderentur, ceſſante hac vi, illico diductæ ſunt. Nictavit, ſed leviſſime, ubi digitus oculo repente admoveretur; ſemper alias palpebræ immotæ fuerunt. Admota candela pupilla oculi ſeſe contraxit. Vi compreſſis naribus, poſt niſum aliquem, et quaſi luctam, labra aperta ſunt ad ſpiritum tranſmittendum. Audivi illam hoc morbo impeditam fuiſſe per aliquot menſes. Mane et veſpere fere quotidie redibant acceſſiones, et manebant modo horam, modo tres horas; et famula affirmavit quandam duodecim horas perſeveraſſe. Morbus repente ſolebat invadere, nullo ſigno antecedente."

ART. IX. *The Hiſtory of Scotland, from the Union of the Crowns on the Acceſſion of James VI. to the Throne of England, to the Union of the Kingdoms in the Reign of Queen Anne. By Malcolm Laing, Eſq. With Two Diſſertations, hiſtorical and critical, on the Gowrie Conſpiracy, and on the ſuppoſed Authenticity of Oſſian's Poems. In Two Volumes.* 8vo. 544 and 448 pp. 16s. Cadell and Davies. 1800.

ALTHOUGH the principal events that have occurred in the Hiſtory of Scotland, from the union of the crowns under James I. to the union of the kingdoms in the reign of Queen Anne, have already engaged the attention of various writers, and perſons in general have made up their opinion on the leading occurrences during that period, yet it muſt be allowed, that a work on a plan ſimilar to this of Mr. Laing was wanting, to afford a complete view of the tranſactions of an ancient kingdom, important in itſelf, and whoſe proceedings muſt have excited conſtant attention while it remained a diſtinct dominion. But the chief incidents that took place in the affairs of Scotland, from the acceſſion of James I. to the Reſtoration of Charles II. being ſo intimately blended with Engliſh hiſtory, and having been ſo frequently inveſtigated, it may be expected that, in order to create a freſh intereſt, they ſhould be preſented by fair hiſtoric induction in a new aſpect.

This Mr. Laing has, in ſome inſtances, attempted. From the Reſtoration to the Union many intereſting events occurred, which may be deemed the peculiar materials of modern Scottiſh hiſtory; and during both theſe periods many circumſtances have ariſen not unworthy of being recorded, and capable of affording general inſtruction; as well as of ſupplying particular amuſement to the perſons of the country, whoſe annals are thus detailed. Theſe are conſiderations which fully authorize the production of the work in queſtion.

To ſpeak generally of this Hiſtory, it exhibits manifeſt proofs of diligence, and in ſome parts of acute diſquiſition; but we apprehend that, in the part of his labours which will probably excite chief attention, namely, the account of Charles I. and the tranſactions of both nations during the civil war, the author will hardly obtain the praiſe of ſufficient impartiality. If, as muſt be admitted, ſome celebrated writers have ſuffered in their reputation, from an eager deſire of vindicating the conduct of Charles I. by ſuppreſſions of truth hurtful to the credit of hiſtory, the preſent writer will not eſcape the cenſure of being actuated by prejudice, from his injurious ſuggeſtions of a contrary tendency. Being furniſhed with proof that, in ſome inſtances, Charles the Firſt had acted with diſſimulation, the hiſtorian ſeems to have conceived, that inſincerity formed a chief ingredient in that unfortunate Prince's character, and that every promiſe and every offer made by him was tinctured with perfidy. In the ordinary commerce of life men, as they advance in years, become more provident, or, in other words, more diſtruſtful; ſurely then ſome allowance ought to be granted for the conduct of a Prince tortured by anxiety, leſſened perhaps in his own eſteem from the conceſſions he had already made, and foreſeeing that ſtill greater would be exacted, and encompaſſed by ſnares, in an age when, according to the writer's own obſervation, hypocriſy was the prevailing vice. (p. 232) If at this period he heſitated what courſe to take, is he to be ſtigmatized as being deceitful? On the contrary, could he by temporizing, or by any blameleſs expedient, have preſerved the eſtabliſhments under which he was born, and which he had been taught to revere as ſacred; thoſe eſtabliſhments, which, though for a ſhort time ſubverted, it hath pleaſed Divine Providence to reinſtate, and of whoſe ſalutary influence millions now partake, would ſuch conduct, had it been ſucceſsful, be now deemed unjuſtifiable?

On a topic of frequent diſcuſſion, Mr. Laing has undertaken to vindicate his countrymen; namely, from the reproach which the Scots underwent, and, according to Mr. Hume, ſtill undergo, "of ſelling their King, and bargaining their Prince

for

for money." The author ſeems duly aware of the difficulty of this undertaking, and expreſſes himſelf thus:

"On this ſubject I am ſenſible that there is equal danger of incurring, on the one hand, the imputation of national partiality and prejudice, or of acquieſcing on the other, without due examination, too precipitately in the received opinion; but the fidelity of the hiſtorian will be abſolved by an accurate explanation of each tranſaction, in the *order of time*, the beſt criterion perhaps of hiſtorical truth."

Purſuing this idea, Mr. L. proceeds to ſhow, that the amount of arrears due to the Scots, after exorbitant propoſals on both ſides, was fixed at the ſum of 400,000l. on the firſt of September; and that the reſolution of the Commons, with reſpect to the diſpoſal of the King's perſon, did not take place till the 18th of September, "which reſolution, being communicated to the Scottiſh Commiſſioners, was reſented in a manner ſufficient to demonſtrate that it had not entered into conſideration in the ſettlement of arrears." He afterwards obſerves, p. 331, that the amount of arrears was adjuſted in Auguſt; but when the Scottiſh Parliament met in November, the diſpoſal of his (the King's) perſon remained undetermined: and the authority of Whitelock is cited, that, on the 24th of December, a mutual underſtanding firſt began for the delivery of the King.

This line of defence ariſing from *the order of time*, by which it is attempted to make the payment of the arrears appear quite a different tranſaction from that for the delivery of the King's perſon, had been ſuggeſted heretofore, and is anſwered by Hume, by an Appeal to Common Senſe, which requires that they ſhould be regarded as one and the ſame; as the Engliſh, unleſs previouſly aſſured of receiving his perſon, would never have relinquiſhed a ſum ſo conſiderable as to weaken themſelves, while it ſtrengthened a people with whom ſo material a queſtion remained to be diſcuſſed.

This objection is admitted to be ſo forcible, that the order of time is afterwards deſerted, and a different vindication is reſorted to; namely, "the uniform tenour of their political conduct, and the unvaried object of their moſt ſecret intrigues." After a ſhort explanation on theſe points, the author proceeds thus: "The fact is, their ſituation was ſo peculiar, that they could neither retain nor relinquiſh the poſſeſſion of his perſon without incurring the imputation of treachery to the Parliament, or of diſloyalty to the King." *To the Parliament at leaſt they were ſteadfaſt in their engagements;* and their repeated offers, renewed

"at the period of their departure, to undertake his defence on the only terms conſiſtent with their original engagements, their religious

gious principles, or their political intereſts, ſhould abſolve them from the imputation of having ſold their King, or retained his perſon as a pledge to extort their arrears." P. 337.

Having thus candidly ſtated the dilemma into which, by their conduct, the Scots had reduced themſelves, of being either treacherous or diſloyal, and having abſolved them from the imputation of treachery to Parliament, by the evidence of facts; we apprehend, that the generality of readers will be of opinion, that the author is ſtill hampered with the other accuſation, and has not diſentangled the Scots from the awkwardneſs of their ſituation.

If hiſtory has been properly deſcribed as philoſophy teaching by example, Mr. L. has acquitted himſelf of his duty, by expatiating on the pernicious effects of what is uſually called religious perſecution. The miſeries endured, and the horrid cruelties ſuffered, by the Preſbyterians, under the adminiſtration of Lauderdale, were certainly not the means to reconcile them to epiſcopacy. On the ſubject of religious opinion, we muſt acquit this author of all partiality, we had almoſt added, of *all prejudice;* but when we recollect his avowed declaration, "that the diſtinguiſhed attribute of an eſtabliſhed church is an intolerant zeal" (p. 237) we perceive that the phraſe would not be ſtrictly accurate, though the prejudice would be found on the other ſide of the queſtion.

The maſſacre of Glencoe, and the project for a ſettlement at Darien, are memorable events; in the detail of which, Mr. L. has ſhown a very commendable induſtry: and on the more important topic, namely, the hiſtory of the Union of the two kingdoms, we may compliment him with the praiſe of having preſented the public with the moſt acceptable account of that very intereſting tranſaction. His account contains a general ſtatement of the leading arguments that were urged, both for and againſt the meaſure; together with a detail of the principal incidents that occurred, tending to influence the conduct of parties and of individuals in Scotland, during the continuance of that diſcuſſion. Having thus expreſſed our approbation in general of this part of the work, Mr. L. will excuſe us for enquiring with what degree of propriety the truly reſpectable appellation of *Patriot* is given to Belhaven, Fletcher of Saltom, &c. for having ſtrenuouſly reſiſted, perhaps, the moſt beneficial compact for both parties that has been entered into ſince the eſtabliſhment of civil ſociety? Is it becauſe in the preſent day oppoſition and patriotiſm are by ſome politicians conſidered as convertible terms? But whatever we may think of undiſtinguiſhing oppoſition, we will not conceal that this author's induſtry has traced the progreſs of the court-like arts of perſuaſion

ſion to its minuteſt branches, and ſhown, p. 373, that a member of the ariſtocracy at that period accepted a gratuity of 11l. 12s. to ſtimulate his zeal for the welfare of his country, on this intereſting ſubject of the Union.

To mention minuter circumſtances, the author ſeems diſpoſed to give greater credit to Biſhop Burnet's hiſtorical accuracy, than ſome other writers are inclined to allow; in matters relating to Scottiſh hiſtory, Mr. L. is certainly qualified to judge, and has aſſigned the ground of his opinion, from having collated Burnet with authentic writers. But in another inſtance he has departed much more widely from general opinion, by ſpeaking of the *accuſtomed baſeneſs* (vol. ii. p. 14) of a popular character, long known by the epithet of honeſt George Monk.

It is ſtated in the Preface, that this work was written in a diſtant ſolitude, probably very far north, for many national idioms prevail, together with ſeveral inaccuracies, which may be corrected in a ſecond edition. We ſubjoin a ſpecimen, by no means diſcreditable, of the author's ſtyle, in drawing the character of Charles the Second.

"Ever ſince the era of the acceſſion, the ſovereign became ſo much eſtranged from Scotland, that, except in the civil wars of Charles I. his preſence or perſonal interpoſition has ſeldom occurred. From the tranſactions in Scotland, therefore, under Charles II. it is neither poſſible to diſcover his private, nor equitable to judge entirely of his public character. His early misfortunes had rendered him an eaſy, unaſſuming companion, familiar and intimate with his attendants in exile. His converſe with foreign courts had imparted an elegant refinement to his manners, which our former ſovereigns never poſſeſſed. Affable, indulgent, ingenious and communicative, polite without affectation, facetious and witty without malignity, alike exempt from his father's reſerve and his grandfather's buffoonery, he was bleſſed with all the external and ſpecious qualities of an accompliſhed prince; and when reſtored to his ſubjects, appeared to be born for the delight of the human race. But if adverſity be the ſchool for princes, it is ſeldom that they return from exile amended or improved. His ſenſe of misfortunes had been loſt in diſſipation, and although his judgment was ſound and correct, his mind, engroſſed with frivolous purſuits and unworthy pleaſures, was incapable or impatient of application to ſerious affairs. His indolence has been frequently employed to extenuate his vices, by thoſe with whom hiſtory is an apology for the crimes or miſconduct of kings. He was inſincere in his promiſes, to avoid importunity; ungrateful, to eſcape obligations which he was unable to diſcharge: but theſe vices had a deeper root, in the diſtruſt and habitual diſſimulation acquired in exile. His unfriendly reception abroad, and perhaps his difficulties after his return, had inſpired a ſettled diſtruſt, not only of all parties, but of all mankind. His intrigues and intercourſe with every party, with the preſbyterians, cavaliers, and papiſts, had inured him early to a per-

a perfidious duplicity; his eaſy inſinuating addreſs was conducive to the moſt artful diſſimulation; and his ſyſtematical diſregard of morals is betrayed in the favourite and uniform maxim of his whole life; that men were never honeſt nor ſincere from principle, nor women chaſte but from humour or caprice. With the manners, taſte, and refinement, he had imbibed the licentious gallantry of the French court; and to his habitual dependence while a fugitive, we muſt aſcribe the venal and proſtitute ſpirit with which, in his ſecret treaties with Louis, he ſold the nation and himſelf when king. From his popular talents, and the deſire of abſolute power, which his education among the cavaliers abroad had confirmed, the Engliſh found a temporary reſource in his indolence and profuſion; and until the laſt years of his reign, his government, however unconſtitutional, was comparatively mild. But his mind was alike adverſe to the liberties, and irreconcileable to the religion of the nation, ever ready to ſacrifice its glory and its intereſts to his own criminal purſuits and pleaſures; and a reign, auſpicious and popular at its commencement, became, as might naturally be expected, diſgraceful and odious before its concluſion.

"His perſon was tall and graceful; his countenance an aſſemblage of harſh but majeſtic features. Hiſtorians, ſtruck with his reſemblance to the buſts of Tiberius, have indulged a compariſon of their characters, and the events of their lives; their invariable choice of unprincipled favourites, whom they ſucceſſively truſted, hated, and deſtroyed; the profound diſſimulation with which they concealed their deſigns; their indolence and love of pleaſure, their early baniſhment, unexpected ſucceſſion, and ſuſpicious death. Neither in the ſocial, though licentious pleaſures of his court, nor in the government of England, diſquieted and therefore controlled by the moſt oppoſite factions, did Charles reſemble the ſolitary and ſuſpicious tyrant of Capræ; but the various, and enormous oppreſſions of his reign in Scotland, may be compared with the tyranny of the worſt Cæſars. The only difference is, that inſtead of the firſt ranks of the nobility, whom Tiberius extinguiſhed, a more diffuſive, and to the people a more inſupportable tyranny, extended over the community at large. The only apology for Charles is, that he was not preſent to ſuperintend or to reſtrain his miniſters; to witneſs the tortures, the groans, or the murder of his ſubjects; to compute the ſums that were wrung from their miſery, or the blood indiſcriminately ſhed by his judges and guards. But the crimes of his miniſters, and the cries of the people, were repeatedly, yet ineffectually, conveyed to his ear: the orders for a maſſacre were certainly executed with his approbation, if not ſubſcribed with his hand; and his refuſal to alleviate or to liſten to the calamities of his ſubjects, beſpeaks a cruel, unforgiving, and obdurate heart; irreconcileable to the preſbyterians from former indignities, and without religious bigotry, ſecretly gratified with religious perſecution." Vol. ii. p. 139.

Though the ſtyle of this hiſtorian is not yet faultleſs, it is in our opinion much improved ſince he publiſhed the ſupplemental volume to Dr. Henry's Hiſtory*. His political diſpoſitions

* See Brit. Crit. vol. ii. pp. 121, 309, and 419.

ſeem

ſeem not to have undergone any material change; and they are in many reſpects ſo different from thoſe which we entertain, that a commendation of them from us cannot poſſibly be expected. But, as the fermentations of mens' minds on political ſubjects have in ſome degree ſubſided, ſneers againſt eſtabliſhments, and ſarcaſms againſt courts, may be read with due allowance for the prejudices of the writer, and without producing any great effect on the feelings or opinions of the reader.

The Diſſertation which concludes theſe volumes is of too intereſting a nature to us to be paſſed in ſilence. It diſcuſſes the much-agitated queſtion of the authenticity of Oſſian's Poems, as publiſhed by Macpherſon, againſt which it takes a decided, and, we think, a deciſive part. Mr. Laing enters at large into the queſtion, evidently with a view to reduce the anſwer as nearly as poſſible to demonſtration. In this we think he has been very ſucceſsful; and, though we wanted no new arguments to fix our opinion on a point, ſo clearly decided (to our apprehenſion) by the internal evidence, and by the conduct of the perſon principally concerned, we ſhall give a brief view of Mr. Laing's diſcuſſion, for the uſe of thoſe who may be inclined to purſue the enquiry.

Mr. L. begins his Diſſertation by referring to what he had ſaid in his firſt volume, p. 44, which he conſiders as unanſwerable. It is this; which we ſhall begin from the preceding page.

"The Highlands were leſs acceſſible (than the borders) to improvement, and leſs ſubmiſſive to government. Separated by their mountains, and divided by a peculiar language, from the reſt of Scotland, the natives have continued a diſtinct and unmixed race, and preſerved the genuine, unadulterated remains of the ancient Celts, to whoſe dreſs and manners there is nothing ſimilar among the Gothic nations of Europe. The productions of the Celtic Muſe would perſuade us to aſcribe to their early manners a civilization inconſiſtent with an utter ignorance of the arts of life; an uniform heroiſm unknown to barbarians; a humanity which refinement has never equalled; and to believe that, before their advance to the ſhepherd ſtate, they poſſeſſed a correct taſte, a poliſhed diction, a cultivated and ſublime poetry, enriched with the choiceſt images of claſſical antiquity, and intermixed *with all the ſentimental affectation of the preſent times.* Their hiſtory contains no marks of primeval refinement, unleſs we can perſuade ourſelves that their deſcendants, as ſoon as they approached obſervation, degenerated, on emerging from the ſavage ſtate, and became more barbarous, in proportion as they became more civilized." Vol. i. p. 43.

Such is the principal argument in that paſſage, which is further confirmed, by an account of their real manners, from the time when an actual knowledge of them commences. The argument

argument is certainly very ſtrong; but it is not perhaps ſo ſtrongly ſtated as it is, with others, by Mr. Pinkerton, in his Scottiſh and Iriſh Hiſtory, vol. ii. p. 82*. But to proceed to the Diſſertation. Mr. Laing divides his ſubject into eight heads, which are ſeparately treated in the following order. 1. The Roman Hiſtory of Britain, p. 378. 2. The middle Ages, p. 384. 3. Tradition, p. 387. 4. Manners, p. 394. 5. The real Origin of the Poems, p. 399. 6. Imitations in them, p. 409. 7. The pretended Earſe Originals, p. 431. 8. Macpherſon's own Account, p. 446.

To go regularly through theſe ſeveral heads with the author, ſo as to give even a ſketch of the contents of each, would lead to an account too extenſive for this work. We muſt content ourſelves with ſelecting a few of thoſe points which appear to us the moſt important. There was not, ſays Mr. L. a ſingle Highlander in Scotland, of the preſent race, at the beginning of the æra aſcribed to Fingal: and the age of that hero is in theſe Poems extended from Caracalla, in 208, to the battle of Gabra, in 296†, "with the ſame propriety as if a youthful patriot, who had reſiſted an union in the Scottiſh Parliament, were again introduced, at the end of the century, oppoſing an union with Ireland, in the Britiſh ſenate." P. 379. *Swaran*, in the firſt fragments, publiſhed in 1760, was called *Garve*, a literal tranſlation of *Magnus*, nor is there any other original to which he can be referred, but *Magnus Barefoot* early in the 12th century. In many other inſtances, reſpecting places and perſons, Mr. Laing proves anticipations of what certainly was not in exiſtence at the ſuppoſed æra of Oſſian. With reſpect to tradition, the ſame arguments are inſiſted upon (but more at length) as Mr. Pinkerton has alſo uſed; and, when MSS. are called in, Johnſon's aſſertion remains unimpeached, that not a ſingle Erſe MS. exiſts above a century old. "Let a ſingle book of Fingal in MS. *ſuch as tranſlated by Macpherſon*, of an older date than the preſent century, be produced and lodged in a public library"—he is ready to give up the diſpute. The red book of Clanronald turns out to be no older than 1726, and, beſides,

* We ſhould be glad alſo to know how theſe queſtions of the ſame author can be anſwered. "Is it not a plain fact, that not even a ſhort poem ever was preſerved by tradition for more than three centuries, not a ballad? How then preſerve long and numerous pieces for fourteen centuries? Is it not a plain fact, that the language of every country becomes obſolete through time, even to the learned? How then can Gaelic of the third century be preſerved in the popular mouth." Note, p. 82.

† Reliques of Iriſh Poetry, p. 146.

contains

contains but little to the purpoſe. Under the article of Manners, Mr. L. again ably contraſts the real manners of the Highlanders with thoſe that appear in the Poems: and mentions ſeveral curious and important particulars.

But one of the moſt remarkable diſcoveries in this Diſſertation is that of the poetical hiſtory of Macpherſon, who, in 1758, two years before he publiſhed the fragments of Oſſian, and four years before he publiſhed the whole, produced a Poem in ſix books, entitled the Highlander, of the Epic kind, and in rhyme. This Poem, which is ſaid to have been afterwards diligently ſuppreſſed by Macpherſon, is now become ſcarce; but has been, by the favour of a curious collector, lately in our hands. It is compriſed in eighty-two pages duodecimo, but contains undoubtedly abundant proof of a genius very ſimilar to that which dictated the Poems aſcribed by him to Oſſian. The name of Macpherſon does not appear in it; but a copy preſented by him, as the author, ſoon after its publication, to Mr. Colin Campbell, now collector of the cuſtoms at Fort William, was put into the hands of Mr. Laing, with undoubted aſſurance of its origin. The author was then twenty-one; and, though his taſte was not yet formed, nor had he acquired the graces or command of the Engliſh language (his native language being Erſe) yet the images and incidents are ſufficiently allied to Fingal.

"Green meteors, mountains, maids in armour, ſtorms, and ghoſts. The ſame ambitious phraſeology, ſtraining after the ſublime, which is ſo apt to degenerate into bombaſt in Oſſian*, becomes quite ludicrous in the Highlander, from the untutored taſte of the author." P. 401.

One or two of the more remarkable inſtances of ſimilarity we ſhall here inſert. The following is very cloſe.

"The Scots, a ſtream, would ſweep the Danes away,
The Danes, a rock, repel the Scots array." *Highl. p.* 21.

"— The ranks of Sweno ſtand in firm array,
As hoary rocks repel the raging ſea." *Ib. p.* 22.

"As roll a thouſand waves to a rock, ſo Swaran's hoſt came on. As meets a rock a thouſand waves, ſo Erin met Swaran of ſpears."— "Frothal came forth with the ſtream of his people. But they met a rock.

* We think into nonſenſe. We have here ſpoken our opinion ſtrongly of theſe Poems, becauſe our conviction of it is ſtrong. We confeſs, however, that ſome perſons, whoſe learning and abilities we very highly eſtimate, think otherwiſe; particularly, as is well known, Mr. J. Whitaker, the able defender of Queen Mary. *Rev.*

rock. Fingal ſtood unmoved. Broken they rolled back from his ſide." *Offian.*

"But I gleam once, then ſink, and am no more." *Highl.*

"Oſca is like the miſt of Cona: I appear and I vaniſh away." *Offian.*

Under the article Imitations, various examples are given of paſſages copied from Scripture, and from many modern poets; and, in the cloſe of that part, the critic adverts to the real originals of Offian, which are certain Iriſh ballads, concerning St. Patrick and others, of no great length, and ſtill leſs poetic dignity. The Iriſh antiquaries however tell us, that Oiſin and Fergus were the bards of Finn, of whom the latter was the chief, and that they all flouriſhed in Ireland*. Mr. Laing afterwards criticizes, with great ſeverity, the fragments of the Erſe original more recently produced by Macpherſon, which, he ſtrongly contends, bear the moſt evident marks of modern fabrication. In the laſt ſection of this Diſſertation it is urged, that Macpherſon, in his improved edition of the Poems, did virtually avow them as his own, in expreſſions ſufficiently unequivocal. He certainly ſpeaks of them in his Preface, here quoted, as depending for their improvement, during eleven years from their firſt publication, upon the increaſe of *his own* knowledge in language, and his judgment in the uſe of imagery; he even uſes the expreſſions of *the author*, and *the writer*, in ſpeaking of himſelf with reference to theſe Poems. It may certainly be argued, that vanity might do this, after the extravagant admiration which the Poems had received; but the internal marks, and the total deficiency of any well-atteſted originals, in every ſtage of the buſineſs, muſt ever, in our opinion, juſtify theſe pretenſions of Macpherſon, and leave him as the ſole and undoubted author of by far the greater part of his extravagant volume.

We ſhall now take our leave of a Diſſertation, the writer of which has certainly done more than his predeceſſors, towards reducing into a demonſtrative form the proofs of ſpuriouſneſs, which adhere to the Poems aſcribed to Offian; Poems which, to our apprehenſion, as little deſerve, in general, the extravagant praiſes they have obtained, as the reliance with which they were received by Dr. Henry and others, as hiſtorical documents.

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* See Miſs Brook's Reliques of Iriſh Poetry, p. 142.

ART. X. *The Britiſh Commiſſary, in Two Parts. Part I. A Syſtem for the Britiſh Commiſſariat on Foreign Service. Part II. An Eſſay towards aſcertaining the Uſe and Duties of a Commiſſariat Staff in England. By Haviland Le Meſurier, Eſq.* 211 pp. Egerton. 1801.

IT is a ſubject of frequent regret to us, that we have it not always in our power to proportion the extent of our remarks to the merit of the works which paſs under our review, but that the nature of our undertaking frequently obliges us to allot a large portion of our pages to ſome authors, who are not entitled to much praiſe, and to others, who excite either our cenſure or our indignation; while we take but a brief and ſummary notice of ſome books which we are bound to commend, and which we wiſh to recommend to the notice of the public.

It is not poſſible to enter into a detail of works, which are in themſelves an epitome of ſome great plan, and in which every ſentence is replete with new inſtruction. Of ſuch a nature is the work before us, the name of whoſe author would be ſufficient to recommend it to the civil and military departments of the army. The enormous fortunes which we ſee at this day poſſeſſed by ſeveral individuals in this kingdom, are a ſufficient proof of the monſtrous abuſes, and the waſte of public money, which muſt have occurred in the office of Commiſſary in former wars, particularly in the American and ſeven years wars. It gives us therefore great ſatisfaction to find, that the regulations now offered to the public, by Mr. Commiſſary Le Meſurier, are not a theory invented during his leiſure hours, but that they were actually carried into execution during our ſhort, but diſaſtrous campaign in Flanders; and it is evident that the greateſt benefits muſt have reſulted from them, both to the army and the nation. A ſtronger proof cannot be produced of the facility and ſimplicity of the plan, than that it could be executed in the rear of a retreating army, and in the face of a victorious enemy. In former wars, it was a common ſaying, that a precipitate retreat was a fortune to a Commiſſary; and we fear there is too much reaſon to believe, that advantage has been taken of the loſs of magazines to charge for ſtores which were never provided. Were there no checks on the expenditure of the Commiſſariat but the receipts of foreign merchants, Mr. Le Meſurier remarks, (we fear, with too much truth) that every man of buſineſs knows how little difficulty there would be in procuring or conſtructing ſuch vouchers.

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We would willingly ſelect ſpecimens from a work which we ſo much approve, was not every part ſo connected, that it is ſcarcely poſſible to detach any portion, which will by itſelf convey an idea of the plan. Mr. Le Meſurier writes perfectly like a man of buſineſs, more attentive to the matter than the manner. He has omitted nothing which was neceſſary to the perfection of his plan; but he has not attempted to decorate his book by one ſuperfluous word. In proof of this, we ſhall extract, what he has naturally given in the greateſt detail, the duties of his own office.

"As the Commiſſary-General attends the Commander in Chief daily, for orders, and to make his reports, ſo ſhould he at certain hours render himſelf acceſſible to perſons of every deſcription. It is a moſt eſſential part of his duty to obtain information of every kind: the civil polity, the interior reſources, the roads, rivers, or canals, of a country, are objects which obviouſly he muſt acquire a knowledge of, but which he will be deceived in, unleſs he can draw information from various ſources, and compoſe and digeſt the opinions and views of different people; for intereſt rules mankind, and no one comes near an army without an intereſted motive. By thus opening the ſluices of information, he will not only obtain uſeful knowledge, as to the country, but will be furniſhed with the only means in his power of checking abuſes in every department; for no contractor will ſeek to corrupt ſubordinate officers, while he finds himſelf admitted to the preſence of the Chief, and abuſes will be attempted with extreme caution, when ſo watchful an eye is known to pervade every part of the adminiſtration.

"But while oral communication is inſiſted on as neceſſary to draw forth the reſources and to check abuſes, it is as indiſpenſably required, that all money tranſactions ſhould be committed to writing. Every tender ſhould be written and ſigned; the ſupply of an army muſt not depend on the caprice of any man; and it is well known, that perſons in general are more tenacious of their bond than of their word; but above all, it is incumbent on the Commiſſary-General to prove, that he has at all times uſed diligence to procure tenders, and that he has accepted the beſt. The unaccepted tenders are the fair and proper certificates of prices to be produced by him, and they come within the meaning of the fifth article of his treaſury inſtructions; for the certificate of *two reſpectable merchants abroad*, may at any time be obtained with a little management, when a mere cover is intended; while a diſcreet Commiſſary-General will be cautious of diſcloſing his tranſactions to the merchants of the country he is in, which he muſt do, if he requires bonâ fide certificates of them; and as to the certificates of magiſtrates, it is well known they are as little to be depended on."

The arrangement of a Commiſſariat Staff in England, which conſtitutes the ſecond part of this volume, we recommend to the peruſal of all thoſe who intereſt themſelves in the defence of the kingdom againſt foreign invaſion. We ardently hope the nation may never again be ſubjected to ſuch a danger; but

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no man can doubt of the propriety of being always prepared to reſiſt it; and we truſt in the ſyſtem which is now forming for the education of military men, the duties of the Commiſſary's office will not be forgotten. The appointments ſuggeſted by Mr. Le Meſurier may be made with little or no expence, except an invaſion ſhould actually take place; and even then, as he very juſtly obſerves, ſuch is the abundance of ſupplies in this country, that it would not be neceſſary to form large magazines. The propriety of his objections, indeed, to large magazines in general, muſt be obvious to every one. They ſerve only to impede an army, and enrich the contractors. Troops loſe their confidence, in proportion as they are removed to a diſtance from that place whence they know they are to derive all their ſupplies; whereas, if ſmall magazines are diſpoſed in different parts of the country, ſoldiers become indifferent about them, becauſe they believe that, in removing from one, they are approaching another.

ART. XI. *Specimens of the early Engliſh Poets, &c. By G. Ellis, Eſq.*

(Concluded from p. 224.)

THE greateſt part of the ſecond volume of Mr. Ellis's work, is occupied by ſpecimens of the poetry of the reign of Elizabeth.

"The poetical hiſtory of this important reign," ſays Mr. E. "which occupies near a century in our annals, could not eaſily be comprized in a moderate volume. Epic and Didactic Poems, Satires, Plays, Maſques, Tranſlations from the Greek, Latin, and all the modern languages, Hiſtorical Legends, Devotional Poems, Paſtorals, Sonnets, Madrigals, Acroſtics, and Humourous and Romantic Ballads, were produced during this period, with a profuſion which perhaps has never ſince been equalled. No leſs than ſeventy-four poets are aſſigned to the age of Elizabeth, in the new edition of the "Theatrum Poetarum," and the catalogue might certainly be much farther extended. It is true, that of theſe claimants to immortality, the far greater part have been very generally conſigned to oblivion; a few ſuch as Drayton, Fairfax, Warner, Sir J. Harrington, Sir Philip Sidney, Sir Walter Raleigh, continue to be cited in deference to their ancient reputation; but Shakſpeare, Johnſon, Fletcher, Spenſer, and Sir J. Davis, are ſtill confeſſed to be unrivalled in their ſtyles of compoſition, although nearly two centuries have ſince elapſed, during which the progreſs of literature, and the improvement of our language, have been conſtant and uninterrupted." Vol. ii. p. 131.

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The author afterwards ſhortly ſtates the circumſtances which turned the national genius towards poetry, in the age of Elizabeth, and which beſtowed on the poetry of that period, both its great excellence and its peculiar character. In this ſtatement, nothing is more conſpicuous than that power of elegant and luminous abridgment, of that talent for delivering the reſult of extenſive knowledge, in eaſy and popular language, which ſo peculiarly diſtinguiſhes this work. In ſubſtance, Mr. Ellis agrees with Mr. Warton. In one particular he diſſents from him, and we think with reaſon.

" Mr. Warton thinks he ſees in the writers of this reign, " a certain dignified inattention to niceties," and to this he attributes " the flowing modulation which now marked the meaſures of our poets;" but there ſeems to be neither dignity nor inattention in deviating from rules which had never been laid down; and the modulation which he aſcribes to this cauſe, is not leſs likely to have reſulted from the muſical ſtudies which at this time formed a part of general education. The lyrical compoſitions of this time are ſo far from being uſually marked with a faulty negligence, that exceſs of ornament, and laboured affectation, are their characteriſtic blemiſhes. Such as are free from conceit and antitheſis, are in general exquiſitely poliſhed, and may ſafely be compared with the moſt elegant and finiſhed ſpecimens of modern poetry." Vol. ii. p. 133.

The firſt place, though not the firſt rank, among the poets of this reign, is given to the Queen herſelf; Old Puttenham tells us, " I can find none example in Engliſh metre, ſo well maintaining this figure (the *exargaſia*, or gorgeous) as that ditty of her *Majeſties own making, paſſing ſweet and harmonious.*"

This panegyric proves only, that old critics were as courtly as modern. But the lines are ſmooth enough, as the following couplet will ſhow:

" For falſehood now doth flow, and ſubject faith doth ebb,
Which would not be if reaſon rul'd, or wiſdom weav'd the web."

The perpetual recurrence of the ſame ſubject, Love, in theſe ſpecimens, is indeed no fault of Mr. Ellis; but it muſt be owned to be a conſiderable defect in his materials. We do not ſpeak as auſtere moraliſts, though reviewers are well known to be always venerable ſages, far ſuperior to the uſual frailties of human nature! But the uniformity is really tireſome, and the more ſo, becauſe when we ſee *every* poet in love, we know that it is no longer a ſentiment, but a faſhion. From the acceſſion of Elizabeth to the Reſtoration, perhaps as much ingenuity was employed by poets in counterfeiting love, as had two or three centuries before been extended by ſchoolmen in the erection of ſyſtems of philoſophy, and with a very ſimilar iſſue,

as

as far as relates either to the pleaſure of the reader or the durable reputation of the author.

It is too commonly known to require obſervation, that our poetry, in the reign of Elizabeth, had attained much harmony of verſification, which, under Donne and Cowley, it afterwards in a great meaſure loſt. We ſhall content ourſelves with exemplifying this common remark, by a very few paſſages of thoſe poets, who, being older than Shakeſpeare and Spenſer, may be regarded as the fathers of Engliſh poetry. Gaſcoigne, Turberville, and Greene, are harmonious and pleaſing, eſpecially Greene. But we were particularly ſtruck by the ſpecimens from *Southwell*, whoſe verſes breathe a ſober and penſive morality, very remote from the affected paſſion and romance of his age.

The following ſtanza is a rational and pleaſing attempt to extract conſolation from the viciſſitudes of human life:

> " Not always fall of leaf, nor ever ſpring,
> Not endleſs night, nor yet eternal day;
> The ſaddeſt birds a ſeaſon find to ſing;
> The rougheſt ſtorm a calm may ſoon allay;
> Thus with ſucceeding turns God tempereth all,
> That man may hope to riſe, yet fear to fall." Vol. ii. p. 168.

" The Soul's Errand," of *Sir Walter Raleigh*, is a very lively Satire, and the " Nymph's Reply," aſcribed on tolerable evidence to the ſame extraordinary man, is certainly one of the moſt ingenious, ſpirited, and harmonious Songs in the Engliſh language. It is ſurpriſing, that in this age of editorſhip, nobody ſhould have thought of collecting the works of ſo remarkable a perſonage, who, as we are told by his contemporaries, on the day of his trial for treaſon, went into court the moſt unpopular man in England, and came out the moſt popular; a triumph for which he was doubtleſs much indebted to the powers of his own genius, but perhaps ſtill more to the brutality of his proſecutors. *John Lylie*, the inventor of the jargonical ſtyle, called *Euphuiſm*, which had ſo much temporary vogue, may be added to the liſt of thoſe writers who had taſte in one ſort of writing, though they had none in another. Notwithſtanding all the pedantry of his proſe, he is eaſy and gay in his verſe; in the ſame manner as the taſte of Cowley, which ſo often abandons him in poetry, is conſtantly felt in his natural and elegant proſe. Among the ſpecimens from *Sir Philip Sidney*, we particularly remarked " the Tale," buried under the maſs of his Arcadia, which is well invented and well told. The following couplet, from *Nicholas Breton*, illuſtrates the uſe of the famous word " *Whig*," for a prepara-

tion of milk, a ſenſe for which Dr. Johnſon has given no authority.

> " With leeks and onions, *whig*, and whey,
> I muſt content me as I may."

We were very much diſpoſed to have quoted ſome of the charming extracts from the minor Poems of *Spenſer*, but we were embarraſſed by the difficulty of choice. If Mr. Todd's promiſed edition of that great poet ſhould be executed with the ſame knowledge, taſte, and care, which mark his Milton (of which we have full expectation) he will deſerve a high rank among the benefactors of Engliſh literature. We felt ſome ſurpriſe at finding no extract in this collection from *Fairfax*, whom Dryden thought more harmonious than Spenſer himſelf, and whom Waller acknowledged to be his maſter in numbers. No ſhort Poems of Fairfax* were probably to be found. But perhaps Mr. Ellis has adhered too rigidly to his rule, of excluding fragments from large works. Small Poems, in themſelves complete, are indeed preferable. But it is not eaſy to exemplify, by theſe alone, the progreſs of poetical ſtyle; and the uniformity of ſubject, of which we have already complained, ſeems in part to have ariſen from this almoſt excluſive preference. The reign of Elizabeth is concluded, by Mr. Ellis, with the following fine ſatirical lines of our firſt Engliſh ſatiriſt, *Biſhop Hall*.

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* In Mrs. Cooper's Muſe's Library, at p. 364, is inſerted an Eclogue, by E. Fairfax, the fourth out of twelve; for which, the editor ſays, ſhe was indebted to the indulgence of the family of the poet, from whom alſo ſhe had the Memoirs of him, inſerted in her work. As this was only in 1737, there is much reaſon to hope that they may ſtill be preſerved. They were accompanied by large annotations, from the ſon of the author. Dr. Warton mentions them in his edition of Pope, vol. i. p. 82; but, without any additional information, except that, after being loſt in the fire that conſumed the Banquetting-Houſe at Whitehall, they were recovered by Mr. W. Fairfax, the poet's ſon, from his father's papers. Whoever poſſeſſes them at preſent, would do a ſignal ſervice to literature, by making the circumſtance known. Mrs. Cooper ſays, that they relate to " the manners, characters, and incidents, of the times he lived in; are pointed with many fine ſtrokes of ſatire; dignified with wholeſome leſſons of morality and policy, to thoſe of the higheſt rank; and ſome modeſt hints even to Majeſty itſelf," with other high commendations.

Mrs. C. alſo mentions a Hiſtory of Edward the Black Prince, whether in proſe or verſe ſhe does not ſay; and a book on *Dæmonology*, which was certainly in proſe, as ſhe cites the beginning of it, but it never was printed, and probably little deſerved the preſs.

" SATIRE

" SATIRE VI. B. I.

" Another ſcorns the homeſpun thread of rhymes,
Match'd with the lofty feet of elder times.
Give me the number'd verſe that Virgil ſung,
And Virgil's ſelf ſhall ſpeak the Engliſh tongue:
Manhood and Garboiles ſhall be chaunt with changed feet,
And headſtrong dactyles making muſic meet;
The nimble dactyls ſtriving to outgo
The drawling ſpondees pacing it below;
The lingering ſpondees ſtriving to delay
The breathleſs dactyls with a ſudden ſtay!
Who ever ſaw a colt wanton and wild
Yoked with a ſlowfoot ox on fallow field,
Can right *areed* how handſomely beſets
Dull ſpondees with the Engliſh dactylets.
If Jove ſpeaks Engliſh in a thundering cloud,
Thwick, thwack, and *riff-raff* roars he out aloud,
Fie on the forged mint that did create
New coin of words never articulate."

The follies againſt which the good Biſhop pointed his ſatire, in 1597, were revived about two centuries afterwards; and, though not patronized by men ſo illuſtrious as Sir Philip Sydney, were ridiculed with more happy pleaſantry than that of Biſhop Hall.

Under James I. the flowing ſtanza, and rich natural deſcription of Spenſer and Fairfax, were ſucceeded by harſh conceits, clothed in ſlovenly language, and rugged numbers. That there were however exceptions will appear from the two following Sonnets; the firſt aſcribed to William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, ſaid by Lord Clarendon to have been the moſt popular, and univerſally beloved, nobleman of his age; and the ſecond by Drummond of Hawthornden, one of the moſt beautiful writers in our language.

" So glides along the wanton brook,
With gentle pace into the main,
Courting the banks with amorous look,
He never means to ſee again.
And ſo does fortune uſe to ſmile
Upon the ſhortlived fav'rite's face,
Whoſe ſwelling hopes ſhe does beguile,
And always caſts him in the race.
And ſo doth the fantaſtic boy,
The god of the ill-managed flames,
Who ne'er kept word in promiſed joy,
To lover nor to loving dames.
So all alike will conſtant prove,
Both fortune, running ſtreams, and love."

" SONNET, BY DRUMMOND.

Thrice happy he who by ſome ſhady grove
Far from the clam'rous world doth live, his own;
Though ſolitary, who is not alone,
But doth converſe with that eternal love.
O how more ſweet is birds' harmonious moan,
Or the hoarſe ſobbings of the widowed dove,
Than thoſe ſmooth whiſperings near a Princes throne
Which good make doubtful, do the ill approve.
O how more ſweet is zephyr's wholeſome breath,
And ſighs embalm'd which newborn flowers unfold,
Than that applauſe vain honour doth bequeathe.
How ſweet are ſtreams, to poiſon drunk in gold!
The world is full of horrors, troubles, ſlights;
Woods' harmleſs ſhades have only true delights."

The line marked in *Italics* is ſo obſcure and rugged, and ſo unworthy of the context, as naturally to excite a ſuſpicion of a corrupted text, eſpecially in a writer whoſe works have been very negligently edited.

The following ſtanzas, extracted from a Poem by *Quarles*, whoſe name has become ſynonymous with that of a bad poet, are curious. The title of the Poem is " *The Song of Anarchus*", and it is throughout a ſingular ſpecimen of the uniformity of human follies in different ages.

" We'll down with all the *'varſities*
Where learning is profeſs'd;
Becauſe they practiſe and maintain
The language of the beaſt.

We'll drive the doctors out of doors,
And arts whate'er they be,
We'll cry both arts and learning down,
And hey then up go we.

The name of Lord ſhall be abhorred,
For every man's a brother.
No reaſon why in Church or State
One man ſhould rule another." &c.

It may fairly be doubted, whether any thing more exquiſite is to be found, in the Engliſh language, than the little Poem of *Shirley*, of which the following is the concluding ſtanza.

" The garlands wither on your brow!
Then boaſt no more your mighty deeds.
Upon Death's purple altar now
See where the victor-victim bleeds.
Your heads muſt come
To the cold tomb;
Only the actions of the juſt
Smell ſweet, and bloſſom in the duſt."

Carew

Carew opens the poetical age of Charles I. with great luſtre. He preſerved the harmony of his verſe, if not the purity of his taſte, untainted by his metaphyſical contemporaries. In point of verſification, he is the link which joins Spenſer and Fairfax to Waller and Denham. Our limits oblige us to chooſe, not the beſt, but the ſhorteſt, ſpecimen of his poetry.

"THE PRIMROSE.

Aſk me why I ſend you here
The firſtling of the infant year;
Aſk me why I ſend to you
This primroſe all bepearl'd with dew;
I ſtraight will whiſper in your ears
The ſweets of love are waſhed with tears.
Aſk me why this flower doth ſhew
So yellow, green, and ſickly too:
Aſk me why the ſtalk is weak
And bending yet it doth not break;
I muſt tell you, theſe diſcover
What doubts and fears are in a lover."

We ſhall not vindicate the taſte of *Craſhaw;* but, ſurely, Mr. Ellis has ſpoken of him with too undiſtinguiſhing ſeverity. It would be difficult to name a verſifier, except *Cowley*, who has ſhown ſo much genius in a vicious ſtyle.

The Poems of *Sir John Suckling* are too well known to need any obſervation. It is impoſſible to read the ſpecimens given here without agreeing with Mr. Ellis, that "the grace and elegance of his Songs and Ballads are inimitable." If theſe models had been more frequently and more happily copied, the French would not have been unrivalled in light poetry. The Song "*Honeſt lover whoſoever*" has been elegantly, and very cloſely, imitated by Mrs. Barbauld, in her Song, "*Come here fond youth*," &c.

The Poems of the brave and unfortunate Colonel Lovelace, though too free in their gallantry, are among the greateſt ornaments of this work. We ſhall extract one of them, though well known to the readers of poetry ſince the appearance of Dr. Percy's collection, for the ſake of giving the various readings which occur in a MS. in the Harleian collection, No. 2127.

"TO ALTHÆA, FROM PRISON*.

When Love with unconfined wings
Hovers *within*† my gates,
And my divine Althæa *brings*‡
To whiſper§ at my grates.

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* Where he was confined for his loyalty.
† about. ‡ ſings. § And whiſpers.

Whe

When I lie tangled in her hair,
And fettered to her eye,
The birds that wanton in the air
Know no ſuch liberty.

When flowing cups run *ſwiftly** round,
With no allaying *Thames*†,
Our careleſs heads with roſes crown'd,
Our *hearts with loyal*‡ flames;
When§ thirſty grief in wine we ſteep,
When healths, *and draughts, go free*‖,
Fiſhes that tipple in the deep
Know no ſuch liberty.

When *like committed linnets I*,¶
With ſhriller *throat*** ſhall ſing
The *ſweetneſs, mercy*,†† majeſty,
And *glories*‡‡ of my king.
When *I*§§ ſhall *voice*‖‖ aloud how good
He is—how great ſhould be,
Enlarged winds that curl the flood
Know no ſuch liberty.

Stone walls do not a priſon make,
Nor iron bars a cage;
Minds innocent and quiet take¶¶
*That for**† an hermitage.
*If I**‡ have freedom in *my**§ love,
And in *my ſoul am**‖ free,
Angels alone that ſoar above
Enjoy ſuch liberty."

Some of theſe readings are inferior, but ſome ſuperior, to thoſe in the common copies. The firſt in the laſt ſtanza gives a more natural conſtruction, and ſomething more like the ſtyle of the time, but at the expence of the rhyme. The other ſeems a modern attempt at improvement, for the ſake of furniſhing a rhyme.

Mr. Ellis tells us of MS. plays of Lovelace ſtill extant, but gives no information where they may be found. An account of his life, and a correct edition of his works, would probably be acceptable to the public.

The poetical annals of Charles II. are familiar to almoſt every reader. Yet, even in this well-known region, the taſte of Mr. Ellis has made ſome diſcoveries; for whatever is

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* ſweetly. † theames. ‡ loyal hearts with. § Whilſt.
‖ in bowles runne. ¶ lynnets like confined we. ** note.
†† glory, might, and. ‡‡ goodneſs. §§ we. ‖‖ vote.
¶¶ A ſpotleſs mind, and innocent. *† Calls that. *‡ Whilſt we.
*§ our. *‖ our ſouls are.

transferred

transferred from the hands of the curious and critical to the ſtock of general learning, and public amuſement, we conſider as a ſort of diſcovery in poetical criticiſm. Of this ſort is the "*Invocation of the Ghoſt of Laius by Tireſias*", from Dryden's Tragedy of Œdipus, written indeed with a conſtant eye to the incantation in Macbeth, but written with all the fire and boldneſs of a poet; not with the coldneſs of an imitator.

It is as difficult for a reviewer to cloſe ſuch volumes as the preſent, as it is to toil through many of thoſe which he is condemned to read. We ſhould almoſt tranſcribe the whole, if we were to conſult our own taſte. It would be delightful to linger in theſe *amæna vireta fortunatorum nemorum.* But we have perhaps done enough for any uſeful purpoſe. The ſtatement which we have given of the plan, and the ſpecimens of the execution, are ſufficient to excite the curioſity of every reader of taſte. The work itſelf will fill every ſuch reader with delight: and if there be any, whoſe appetite we have not already provoked, their caſe muſt be hopeleſs. All attempts to practiſe upon them muſt be unavailing. Their heads muſt be inacceſſible to criticiſm, and their hearts inſenſible to poetical beauty.

ART. XII. *Critical Remarks on the Hebrew Scriptures, &c.*

(Continued from our laſt, p. 530.)

PAGE 229.—Exod. xiv. 21. "—the north-eaſt wind, *Euraquilone*"] A north, or north-weſt wind, would have ſerved the purpoſe better, if the object had been to lay the head of the gulf dry. But this is Dr. Geddes's Hiſtory, not that of Moſes. The operation ſeems to have been this: the Almighty cauſed a vehement wind (a hurricane) from the eaſt (רוח קדים can ſignify no other than an eaſt-wind) to ſet directly acroſs the Red Sea all night, with unremitted force, but in a narrow track; in a direction not exactly horizontal, but conſiderably inclined towards the horizon (the common caſe of hurricane winds) which, blowing in this manner, ploughed a trench, as it were, for itſelf through the middle of the ſea, from coaſt to coaſt, laying the very bottom bare, and ſupporting the divided waters, as the banks of this trench, on either ſide. Through this trench, or deep furrow, the Iſraelites paſſed, the banks of waters being as a wall to them on the right hand and the left. The wind laſted till the Iſraelites were ſafe on the Arabian ſhore.

ſhore. Let any Infidel, or any of the ſchool of Michaelis, who would ſplit the difference with infidelity, give a more philoſophical account of the phyſical powers employed in the buſineſs than this, if they can. Let the due ſtrength and direction be given to the wind, at the proper moment (for which indeed nothing but the immediate act of the divine power ſeems ſufficient) and we maintain that, upon phyſical principles, the effect muſt follow. "When the morning appeared," the Iſraelites having now gained the ſhore, "Moſes ſtretched forth his hand over the ſea," the wind ſubſided, "and the ſea returned to its ſtrength," i. e. the waters, their phyſical powers being no longer arreſted by the force of the hurricane, by the common hydroſtatical principles ſought their natural level, ruſhed at once from both ſides into the trench, and covered Pharaoh and his devoted hoſt. N. B. This trench, ploughed by the hurricane in the main ſea, the prophet Iſaiah calls, "a path," made by God in the mighty waters.

P. 230.—"This may eaſily be conceived by thoſe who have paſſed the waſhes," &c.] It may eaſily be conceived by thoſe, who have never paſſed the waſhes between Norfolk and Lincolnſhire, nor the Milnthorp and Cartmel Sands, that the miracle was not that Pharaoh and his hoſt, attempting to croſs a ſea twelve miles broad, and many fathoms deep, on foot, or in chariots, and on horſes, were drowned in the middle of it; but that the Iſraelites had not been ſwallowed in the waves in which the Egyptians were ingulfed: that the hurricane ſet in, to divide the ſea for the ſafe paſſage of the Iſraelites, upon a ſignal given by Moſes by the extending of his rod; and when the Iſraelites had ſafely gained the ſhore, ſubſided upon the like ſignal, to give the ſea liberty to overwhelm the Egyptians; and what analogy has this to the rare, but natural, phænomena of extraordinary tides?

P. 235.—Exod. xv. 26. "For I am your phyſician."] See the remarks of Biſhop Horſley upon the word רפא, and upon the ſenſe of it in this paſſage, in his critical notes upon Hoſea, chap. xi. note (F).

P. 236.—Exod. xvi. 10. "It was probably a thunder-ſtorm—the majeſty of Jupiter is thus deſcribed by Ovid."] A conjecture, and a compariſon, little ſhort of blaſphemy!

P. 244.—Exod. xvii. 15. "Jeve Niſſi," &c.] Bates's verſion, as corrected by Parkhurſt in his Lexicon, under the word נסה, however ſingular, has this advantage. That it is a plain and literal rendering of the text, without any conjectural alteration, without impoſing any unuſual ſenſe upon any word in the paſſage taken ſingly, and with no other ſingularity

or harſhneſs of conſtruction or figure, than this, that it makes the verb ſubſtantive underſtood to be equivalent to "denote"—*is war*, i. e. "denotes war." It is a great objection however to this interpretation, that it refers to a ſuppoſed ænigmatical device upon the altar, of which we have no explicit mention, and has no reference to the name of the altar which is mentioned. So that it explains what is not mentioned, and leaves what is mentioned unexplained.

It is the conſtant practice of Holy Writ, to accompany the mention of ænigmatical, or alluſive names (and all Hebrew names, impoſed upon perſons or things upon particular occaſions, are of that kind) with an expoſition of the name, either given at the time by the impoſer of the name, or mentioned by the ſacred hiſtorian. In what Moſes ſaid, therefore, when he gave the altar a particular name, we might naturally expect to find an explanation of the import of the name, as a reaſon for the impoſition of it. But this explanation we look for in vain, in any ſenſe that has yet been given to the words of Moſes: and Caſtalio, conceiving that no ſuch explanation was to be found in them as the text ſtands, ſuſpected a corruption, and propoſed to change the word כס into נס This reading, which Caſtalio offered as a mere conjecture, now appears to have the authority of one MS. of conſiderable credit: and if it be received, we have, without any further alteration of the text, the deſired explanation. "Moſes built an altar, and he called the name of it Jehovah-Niſſi, or Noſſi [i. e. Jehovah my ſtandard bearer]. For he ſaid, truly the hand of Jah is upon the ſtandard [i. e. Jah himſelf uprears the ſtandard]. Jehovah will have war "againſt Amalek, from generation to generation." The change of a כ into a נ, may ſeem but a ſlight alteration, but is more than we ſhould be willing to admit upon the authority of a ſingle MS. though a good one, againſt the uniform depoſitions of the ancient verſions, which, however they differ from each other in the ſenſe of the paſſage, all repreſent the reading כס. Eſpecially as this reading, rightly underſtood, may perhaps convey the very ſame meaning, as Caſtalio's emendation would more obviouſly indeed expreſs. This will be the caſe, if in the words יד על כס יה, an alluſion be ſuppoſed, not to any particular device upon this altar, of which the Hiſtory makes no mention, (which pretending to explain the name given to the altar, it could not but have mentioned, if upon that the explanation depended) but to a certain device upon military ſtandards, the mention of which, if it was in frequent uſe at the time, the Hiſtory might well omit. We ſee upon ancient monuments ſtill extant, military ſtandards of the

the Romans, with a man's hand, from the wriſt to the fingers, erect upon a pole. The wriſt reſts upon the edge of ſomething circular, which has exactly the appearance of a Patera. It might perhaps be the very ſame emblem, which made in ſilver, and appended to the boat of Ammon, Quintus Curtius, from its figure (which was all he knew about it) called Patera: and for the ſame reaſon, i. e. from its ſhape, it might be called כַּף in Hebrew. Now, if ſuch military ſtandards may be ſuppoſed to have been of ſo high antiquity, as to be in frequent uſe in the time of Moſes, the paſſage may be thus rendered: "Moſes built an altar, and he called the name of it Jehovah Noſſi [i. e. Jehovah my ſtandard bearer]. For he ſaid, truly the hand over the Patera is Jah's. War of Jehovah againſt Amalek [ſhall be] from generation to generation." Or, "Perpetual war of Jehovah againſt Amalek!" πόλεμος ἄσπονδος τῷ Ιαω πρὸς Αμαλήκ. "The Patera" we read כַּף, not כַּפּ. The word כוּם occurs without the ו, in 2 Sam. xii. 3, "—— my ſtandard bearer," ſo we interpret נוֹסֵ, which we punctuate נוֹסֵ֫. It is true, that the genuine Hebrew word for "ſtandard bearer," is נוֹסֵם. But verbals, from the Paël of verbs doubling ain, when they take a ſuffix, frequently drop both the ſuſtaining ו of the Cholem and the ſecond radical; ſupplying the abſence of the latter, by Dageſh in the remaining letter.

P. 246.—Exod. xviii. 11. "Becauſe they had dealt haughtily with them."] Theſe words, now at the end of v. 11. Dr. Geddes propoſes to tranſpoſe to the end of v. 10; and this tranſpoſition is certainly very plauſible.

P. 247.—Exod. xviii. 13—27. "From the words, v. 20, *Teach them his ſtatutes and his laws, and ſhew them the way in which they are to walk*, we may preſume that Moſes took the hint of giving to the Iſraelites fixed and determinate laws in the name of Jehovah."] Theſe words only reſerve to Moſes the excluſive prerogative of expounding the Divine Law, as immediately communicated to him by God. The ſubordinate judges were to adminiſter juſtice according to the general rules of that law in common caſes. But more difficult matters were to be brought before Moſes himſelf.

P. 249.—Exod. xx. "—— a ſtorm of thunder and lightning enſues."] Lucky! That this ſtorm ſhould take place, at the very time when the people had been prepared, three days before, to expect the viſible deſcent of Jehovah upon the mountain. See chap. xix. 10—16.

Ibid.—"Such I conceive to be the whole myſtery."] A very extraordinary conception, to enter the mind of a man affecting not entirely to diſbelieve the providence of God. To

ſuppoſe that he would permit this thunder-ſtorm to take place, at the very moment when it might beſt ſerve the purpoſe of a moſt audacious impoſtor: for ſuch, in Dr. Geddes's conception, Moſes muſt have been.

P. 251.—" If there was any articulate voice heard, I am convinced it was the voice of a man, ſpeaking perhaps through a trumpet,"] He who could carry on ſuch a trick, in the midſt of a tremendous ſtorm of thunder and lightning, muſt have been as void both of faith and fear as Dr. Geddes.

P. 258.—Exod. xxiii. 20. " My preſence ſhall go."] i. e. " My own perſon," I myſelf in perſon. Therefore " my angel," and " my perſon," are the ſame.

P. 260.—Exod. xxiv. 10. " It is elſewhere aſſerted, that no one can ſee him (God) and live."] See chap. xxxiii. 20 and 23, whence it appears, that at the very time when it was declared, that " no man could ſee God's face, or glory, and live;" yet Moſes was permitted to ſee " his hinder part." So that in a certain ſenſe and degree God may not be ſeen; in a certain ſenſe and degree he may. In a certain ſenſe and degree he was ſeen by all thoſe, to whom the bright tokens of his preſence in the Schechinah were, at any time, diſplayed.

P. 263.—Exod. xxv. 8. " To wean them gradually from that idolatrous and polytheiſtic worſhip, Moſes wiſely indulged them with an external reſemblance of it."] Moſt abſurd! There was no plan of " gradual weaning from idolatry" in the Moſaic inſtitutions. The ſeparation was direct, abſolute, and immediate.

P. 295.—Exod. xxxiv. 21. " — but none has better expreſſed the ſenſe than Saadias—keep the ſabbath, even in the time of ploughing and of reaping."] We cannot think this the true ſenſe. The 21ſt verſe ſhould conſiſt of the firſt clauſe only. The ſecond clauſe, " in *earing* * time," &c. ſhould be joined to the following verſe. For the precept of reſting, in this ſecond clauſe, relates not to the weekly reſt of the ſeventh day, but to that of the three ſtated feſtivals. " In earing time and in harveſt thou ſhalt reſt, and thou ſhalt obſerve," &c.

Ibid. " — the great *Phaſah* itſelf being kept but once by King Joſiah," &c.] Dr. G. ſeems to have forgotten Hezekiah's paſſover, 2 Chron. xxx. and to have forgotten the intimation given, in the deſcription of that paſſover, of ſolemn celebrations of the feſtival in the time of Solomon. It is not however very ſtrange, that the Hiſtory ſhould not expreſsly mention

* i. e. *ploughing* time. *Rev.*

celebrations

celebrations of an annual feſtival, that had nothing in them extraordinary. It is indeed a remarkable circumſtance, that the Sacred Hiſtory ſeems to ſay, that Joſiah's paſſover exceeded all that had been before it.

P. 296–297.—Exod. xxxiv. 28. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the Covenant, ten articles."] There is certainly a conſiderable difficulty in this 28th verſe. Upon a compariſon of all the texts in Exodus and Deuteronomy, which relate to the two tables, the fact ſeems indiſputable, that what are commonly called the Ten Commandments were written on the ſecond tables, as well as on the firſt, by the finger, or miraculous power, of God. In the 27th verſe of this chapter, Moſes is certainly commanded to write all the precepts given in this chapter, from the 10th to the 26th verſe, both included; and this 28th verſe ſeems to ſay, that Moſes wrote, upon tables, the Ten Commandments, as well as theſe precepts; which is contradictory to every other paſſage where the Ten Commandments are mentioned. To reconcile this text with the others relating to the ſame ſubject, we would ſuppoſe an underſtood repetition of the word הלוחת, after הברית, or elſe a trajection of the words הדברים עשרה, which, in the natural order, ſhould immediately follow the word הלוחת—and he wrote upon the tables the words of the Covenant [namely] upon the tables of the Ten Commandments: "or, and he wrote, upon the tables of the Ten Commandments, the words of the Covenant." Examples are not wanting, either of the underſtood repetition, or of the trajection, ſuppoſed.

It is ſome objection, however, to this ſolution of the difficulty, that to make the ſenſe diſtinct, according to either of theſe ſuppoſitions, the word הזה ſeems to be wanting after הברית, to ſpecify *this covenant*, i. e. the covenant of theſe particular precepts as diſtinct from the covenant of the Decalogue.

Another ſuppoſition may be made. In the 27th verſe, Moſes is commanded to "write theſe words." But it is not ſaid, upon what he was to write them. Now he might write them upon ſeparate tables; not on thoſe, on which the Decalogue was already written: and in that caſe the הדברים עשרת is to be taken as in appoſition with דברי הברית, and is to be underſtood of the ten articles, to which theſe precepts, according to Houbigant and Secker, are reducible. But then why is ה prefixed to לוחת "*the* tables?"—when no tables have been mentioned before, and no particular tables in this way of underſtanding the text, are deſcribed, or referred to? We incline to the former grammatical reſolution of the text, which applies it to the tables of the Decalogue. But the matter certainly is doubtful; and Dr. Geddes, in this paſſage, has done the

the duty of a tranſlator, in retaining the ambiguity of the original.

P. 297.—Exod. xxxiv. ver. 33. " And when he had done ſpeaking to them, he put a veil upon his face.] We entirely agree in this interpretation.

P. 302.—Exod. xxxv. 22. " Lockets—כומז—a fillet *ad comprimendas mammas.*"] This is of all the moſt probable interpretation of the word, and is perfectly conſiſtent with the Arabic ſenſe of כמן. The Doctor afterwards argues, that it probably ſignified *a phallus;* but if this had been a common ornament of female dreſs among the Iſraelites, at the time of the Exodus, it would certainly have been prohibited by the Law, not only on account of its indecency, but for its connection with the groſſeſt idolatry. Yet we find no mention of it in the Law.

P. 303.—Ver. 28. " כל אשה is a collective."] In many inſtances, in which the noun כל is connected with a feminine noun ſubſtantive ſingular, the collective noun כל is made the nominative of the verb (inſtead of the feminine noun in appoſition with it) and the verb is maſculine and plural.

P. 307.—Exod. xxxviii. 8. " I now leave the intelligent reader to judge for himſelf which verſion he will prefer."] We cannot agree that the common verſion is, as this critic has aſſerted, inadmiſſible, although we think that his interpretation is ingenious, and deſerves attention, *under the inſpection of the women*, inſtead of, *of the looking-glaſſes of the women.* But there is one great difficulty in it. Where did Moſes get the braſs? This the common verſion, if it be the true one, anſwers. But Dr. Geddes leaves that matter in the dark. The materials for every thing were furniſhed by the offerings of the people. See chap. xxxv. 20–29. This is much in favour of the common verſion. Where metallic mirrors are in uſe, they are at this day a part of the ornamental dreſs of the women. See Parkhurſt under the word ראה, 3.

P. 308.—Exodus xl. 34. " I ſhall here content myſelf with preſenting to my readers two notes of a very different complexion," &c.] The learned reader will perhaps be at a loſs to diſcover the great difference of complexion, between theſe two notes of a German and an Engliſh divine. If indeed the " nubes eadem" of Roſenmuller were the ſame thing with Dr. Geddes's cloud, nothing more than a fire kindled by man, and carried before the Iſraelites on a portable altar, the two notes *would be* of a very different complexion; but we are not aware that Roſenmuller embraced this impious opinion, which Dr. Geddes has adopted from Toland. Roſenmuller, however,

however, though not ſo far gone as Dr. Geddes, had ſome ſtrange notions.

P. 310.—Lev. i. 3. I think it probable that the name of Jehovah was known in Midian," &c.] The name of Jehovah was undoubtedly known all over the world, till the corruptions of idolatry gradually buried the patriarchal religion in oblivion. Dr. G. adds, "Thoſe who literally believe what is related in the third chapter of Exodus, will ſneer at me for this remark." But, what is worſe, he who does not believe *literally* what is related in the third chapter of Geneſis, will ſneer at the notion of the ſacrifices of the Law, as adumbrations of the great ſacrifice of the croſs, and will look upon all animal ſafacrifices as inſtitutions of groſs ignorance and ſuperſtition.

P. 360.—Numb. chap. i. 1. "This (interpretation of Michaelis) is extremely ingenious, but has no other ſupport than the identity of numbers, which I cannot conſider as a ſolid proof."] The identity of the numbers, with the extreme improbability of two numberings, and two taxings in two ſucceſſive years, prove beyond a doubt, that the general muſter, related here in detail, and mentioned curſorily, and in the groſs amount of the taxation, Exod. xxxviii. 25. muſt be one and the ſame: and it is certain, that the muſter muſt have been taken in the firſt year, before the Tabernacle was finiſhed; for the poll-tax furniſhed the materials for a moſt eſſential part of the work. See Exod. xxxviii. 27, 28. The conjecture therefore of Michaelis ſeems highly probable; that the numbering of the ſecond year was only a reduction of the numbers, taken the year before, into one general table.

It is to be obſerved, that it is with great inaccuracy that Dr. Geddes cites Exodus xxx. 11. as a paſſage, in which a general muſter *is reported*. No general muſter is reported there. There we find only the Law ſettling the quantum of the poll-tax, to be taken upon every occaſion of a general muſter. It is remarkable, that we have no expreſs relation in the Book of Exodus of a general muſter in the firſt year: and were it not for what is mentioned Exodus xxxviii. 25, 28, of the application of the ſilver, collected by the poll-tax, to the work of the Tabernacle, and the correſpondence of the amount of that ſilver with the number of ſouls, we ſhould not have known that any muſter had been taken, before the ſecond year.

P. 361.—Numb. iii. 1. "תולדות—alſo ſignifies the *events* that happen in a family, as Gen. xxxvii. 2."] This is the only text, where the word תולדות is ſuppoſed to carry this meaning. We are much inclined to ſuſpect a tranſpoſition of the ſacred text: that the four verſes of chapter xxxv. which contain the enumeration of Jacob's ſons, with the laſt clauſe of the preceding

ceding verſe, are miſplaced, and ſhould be inſerted after the word "Jacob", in chap. xxxvii. 2.

"These are the generations of Jacob. The ſons of Jacob were twelve. The ſons of Leah, &c.

"The ſons of Rachel, &c.

"The ſons of Bilhah, &c.

"The ſons of Zilpat, &c. And Joſeph being ſeventeen years old," &c.

The verb ילד is uſed figuratively in two ways only. 1. Applied to unexpected events, not within the ken of human foreſight, conſidered as brought forth by time. Prov. xxvii. 1. 2dly. Applied to the conſequences of human actions, when the forming of the purpoſe of action in the mind is expreſſed under the image of "conception", and the carrying of the purpoſe into execution, under the image of "parturition." Pſ. vii. 10. The noun תולדות itſelf is, we believe, never uſed figuratively, except of the production of material ſubſtances. Gen. ii. 4. We cannot believe, upon the authority of this ſingle doubtful text (Gen. xxxvii. 2) that the word ever ſignifies "family hiſtory."

P. 364.—Numb. iii. 28. "—— for שש we ſhould read שלש."] We are much inclined to agree in this opinion. The abſurdity of the rabbinical ſolution of the difficulty is much greater than it has been repreſented. If, of 22,300 males, 300 and no more were firſt born, the remaining 22,000 muſt have been all younger brothers; which gives more than ſixty-ſeven ſons, upon the average, to every family of the Levites.

P. 366.—Numb. v. 17. "The proof which ſome draw from it*, of the divine original of the Law of Moſes, ſeems not very ſtrong."] Certainly not. But the divine original of the Moſaic Law being previouſly proved from other principles, vindicates this inſtitution from the imputation of pious fraud, which Dr. Geddes would caſt upon it, and from Roſenmuller's ſuggeſtion, that the rite was of no efficacy, otherwiſe than as the belief of its operation deterred women from the crime, or drove them to a confeſſion of their guilt.

(To be continued.)

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* i. e. from the inſtitution of the Waters of Jealouſy.

ART. XIII. *Letters to the Right Honourable Lord Hawkesbury, and to the Right Honourable Henry Addington, on the Peace with Buonaparte; to which is added, an Appendix, containing a Collection (now greatly enlarged) of all the Conventions, Treaties, Speeches, and other Documents, connected with the Subject. By William Cobbett. Second Edition.* 8vo. 259 pp. and 96 Appendix. 7s. Cobbett and Morgan. 1802.

OUR ſentiments on the expediency of the late Peace muſt long ago have been known to our readers. They coincide, we believe, with thoſe of a great majority of the well-informed throughout the kingdom. But, as on all great queſtions, differences of opinions ariſe, ſo on this very momentous point there are ſome illuſtrious names to be recounted, on the oppoſite ſide, as a volunteer in whoſe ranks appears Mr. William Cobbett, better known to many political readers by the name of Peter Porcupine. Moſt, if not all, of the Letters now before us, we had read on their firſt appearance; and, while we gave credit to the author for his public ſpirit and ſincerity, and even admitted ſome of his premiſes, we were far from acceding to his concluſions.

It would be idle and uſeleſs for us to dwell largely on a topic which has ſince been ſo fully diſcuſſed. We will therefore confine ourſelves to a ſtatement of the chief contents of theſe Letters, ſubjoining a few remarks.

The three firſt Letters to Lord Hawkeſbury relate merely to the conduct of ſome among the populace, on the arrival of the preliminaries with the ratification of the French government. We participate with the indignant feelings which Mr. C. expreſſes on that occaſion: but even he (we ſhould ſuppoſe) would now impute the conduct of a great majority of thoſe perſons, not to any taint of Jacobiniſm, or partiality to the preſent ruler of France, but to a momentary enthuſiaſm, abſurdly indeed expreſſed, but not likely to produce any of the ill conſequences he here anticipates. A very different temper has appeared during the negotiation at Amiens; and we ſeem to have returned to a ſtate of external peace, without any immediate or apparent danger to our internal quiet or conſtitution.

In the fourth Letter to Lord Hawkeſbury, the author enters upon his main ſubject, and diſcuſſes the Preliminary Articles as they appeared to affect our intereſts in the Mediterranean; on which ſea, he truly obſerves, we had "four years ago not a ſingle veſſel floating, nor was there a ſingle port open

open to us." He then juſtly celebrates our ſubſequent atchievements, and enumerates the important naval poſts we conſequently obtained. He ſhould have recollected, however, that a very ſhort time before that period, we had aſſerted our naval ſuperiority on the ſame theatre of action, without the advantage of theſe naval ſtations; and, that we only quitted it for a ſhort period, to ſeek and conquer our enemies in other ſeas. This, and many other circumſtances that might be ſtated, tend to ſhow that there is no improbability of our regaining the naval power we acquired in that part of the world, ſhould we, in any future war, make it a principal object of our exertions.

Much might alſo be ſaid on the ſubject of Malta; which this author conſiders as abſolutely given up to France: though perhaps it would not be difficult to prove, that it is more likely, under the preſent arrangement, to be friendly to England. The author ſhould have waited till the concluſion of the Definitive Treaty before he aſſerted, in ſuch poſitive terms, its abandonment to the enemy.

The fifth Letter examines the Preliminaries as they relate to the Eaſt and Weſt-Indies; in which, among many exaggerations, we obſerve one glaring inaccuracy, in repreſenting the iſland of Ceylon as having *belonged* to the Prince of Orange, and that his attachment to us "*coſt him his dominions.*" We do not cavil about terms; the difference materially affects the argument. Mr. Cobbett is not to be told, that this Prince was not, by the conſtitution of the United Provinces, a ſovereign, but only their hereditary firſt officer, or, as they ſometimes termed him themſelves, their Miniſter. He had indeed acquired, by the arms of Pruſſia, and the management of England, a great degree of influence beyond that regularly annexed to his ſtation; but that influence might have declined, though his office had continued, for the Stadholderate might have been reſtored without the reſtoration of ſo great an influence. Upon what pretence he could complain, that we have detained a valuable poſſeſſion taken from *his enemies*, from thoſe who have annihilated that conſtitution under which alone he enjoyed any authority, it requires, we apprehend, even more ingenuity than that of Mr. Cobbett to point out. We forbear from any further comments on the fifth Letter, except that the ſubſequent events in St. Domingo ſeem to render the predictions of Sir. F. Eden on that ſubject far more likely to be verified than thoſe of the preſent author.

In the ſixth Letter we meet, almoſt at the commencement, with a very bold, and yet artfully worded, aſſertion. It is in the following terms:

" To return to Martinico, and the other colonies *yielded to us by the loyal French and Dutch*, will you deny, my Lord, that part, at leaſt, of theſe poſſeſſions were *held by us in truſt?* The whole world will atteſt it; and from one end of the univerſe to the other, honour and juſtice will join the unfortunate loyaliſts in invoking the vengeance of heaven on our heads." P. 72.

From this mode of expreſſion one would ſuppoſe, that all theſe colonies, and particularly Martinico, had been " yielded to us by the loyal French and Dutch", and that *ſome* of them were held under a truſt never to reſign them, under any circumſtances, to the French and Dutch republican governments; whereas the two principal French windward-iſlands ſtood long and difficult ſieges, and yielded under the ordinary terms of capitulation. Thoſe colonies, chiefly Dutch, whoſe ſurrenders were in ſome degree voluntary, did not, and could not juſtly, expect to be retained for the ancient government, after every attempt to reſtore that government had failed. The ſtriking repreſentation which follows, of the increaſed, and now tremendous, power of France, is, we fear, too juſt. But power gained in war often declines and diminiſhes in peace; and they who declare that peace ſhould never be made with an enemy poſſeſſed of ſuch power, ſhould have pointed out the means of reducing it. This author, however, in his ſeventh Letter, propoſes a different principle and ſtipulations, as the foundation of peace with France; and aſſerts that, at all events, the independence of Holland ſhould have been ſecured, and every ſacrifice made to obtain it. How far this was practicable, it is not for us to ſay; but we much doubt whether the influence at preſent poſſeſſed by the French government over Holland is the greateſt of our dangers (for dangers undoubtedly there are) and whether, in ſpite of a few barrier towns, an ally ſo feeble, unſupported by other continental powers, might not, in a future (as in the late) war, have been a greater incumbrance than advantage to Britain. The commercial advantages likely to ariſe to France from the Peace are the ſubject of the eighth Letter, in which the author paints every circumſtance that his imagination can deviſe in her favour, with the ſtrong, though rough, colours of his eloquence. We love not exaggeration on ſuch ſubjects. Our government has ſhown itſelf prudent, but not puſillanimous; and the confidence repoſed in adminiſtration by mercantile men induces us to hope, that the loſs of our continental allies in Europe, like that of our empire in America (from which our ruin was a thouſand times foretold) may not affect our vital intereſts, and that our amazing capital, and our induſtry, our naval ſpirit, and power, may ſtill ſupport us againſt theſe predictions. The ninth Letter

ter concl the author's correſpondence with Lord Hawkeſbury, with ſome general remarks. It would be an endleſs taſk to point out the many opinions and expreſſions which we diſapprove in theſe Letters, as our ſpace will not admit of a minute examination of them. The Letters to Mr. Addington relate chiefly to the conduct of the French government while negotiating the Definitive Treaty; and the author particularly inſiſts, that the French armaments *could not have St. Domingo for their object, or be directed againſt Touſſiant.* Surely this moſt egregious miſtake ſhould have taught the writer a little to moderate his ſelf-confidence, and to think it poſſible, that they who differ from his opinions may not be quite ſo ignorant, abſurd, or corrupt, as he invariably repreſents them.

In the laſt Letter, the author undertakes to prove, *in another publication*, what, we think, *ſhould* have been proved almoſt at the opening of this; namely, that France would have acceded to terms more deſirable for us, and that we poſſeſſed the means of compelling her to do ſo. That we ſtill poſſeſſed reſources for continuing the war there cannot be a doubt; but how far it would have been prudent to exhauſt thoſe reſources, conſidering the circumſtances in which England was placed, is a queſtion on which Mr. C. himſelf might have pauſed, at leaſt, before he was ſo liberal in terms of reproach on Miniſters, whom even he admits to be upright and well-intentioned. He apologizes, indeed, at the concluſion, for the aſperity of thoſe expreſſions: but this is offering an inadequate remedy for the wound which he himſelf has made.

Thus have we endeavoured, without aſperity or partiality, unleſs a conſiſtent adherence to our own opinions can be called partiality, to examine theſe Letters of a man, of whom we certainly have abundant reaſon to complain. From the appearance of his firſt pamphlet in America, to the preſent time, we have uniformly given him our praiſe, and with no niggardly hand. We gave it at firſt, under the certainty of incurring much obloquy by ſo doing; and we had long to fight, even for the exiſtence of ſuch a perſon, againſt the ſtubborn prejudices or daring falſehoods of Jacobins. We may ſay, without exaggeration, that a very large proportion of his credit in this country is derived from the praiſe of the Britiſh Critic. But we praiſed him, becauſe we thought him a firm friend to our Church and State, and, in many reſpects, an able friend. But he comes to England, and entering with violence into certain local diſputes, artfully raiſed to a ſeeming connexion with higher matters, and happening to think differently from us upon them, he forgets at once all that we have ſaid and done for him: he ſtudiouſly aſcribes every ſtep to the worſt motives

he can invent, and becauſe he thinks it an imputation likely to injure us moſt deeply, he accuſes us of deſerting the Church, which we have long defended with him, and ſhould defend, were he to deſert it. Other moſt unjuſt accuſations he makes by inſinuation, particularly reſpecting a matter in which he is perſonally concerned; in which point, we think, he cannot fail to know that he is perfectly unjuſt. But we will not imitate him. We ſhall impute no unworthy motives, nor ſhall we be led into altercation: and when he ſhall be weary of abuſing us, and the violence of his paſſions ſhall have ſubſided, he will diſcover, perhaps, that he has been endeavouring to injure thoſe, who ſupport principles rather than men, and are not prompt to return evil for evil.

ART. XIV. *Eight Letters on the Peace; and on the Commerce and Manufactures of Great Britain and Ireland. By Sir Frederick Morton Eden, Bart. The Second Edition, with conſiderable Additions.* 8vo. 210 pp. 4s. White. 1802.

IN the third number of our nineteenth volume, we noticed the firſt edition of this intereſting work, which was publiſhed in January laſt. It gives us pleaſure to find that a work, which, from its nature, can hope to engage readers only by the importance and value of its diſcuſſions, has, notwithſtanding its having been previouſly circulated in a newſpaper, ſo ſoon come to a ſecond edition. The very "conſiderable Additions," which freſh information and further conſideration have enabled the author to make to his firſt publication, have nearly doubled its firſt ſize: and theſe Letters, in their preſent form, viewing the Peace in all its bearings, relations, and conſequences, now exhibit, in our eſtimation, the faireſt and fulleſt view that we have yet ſeen, both of its advantages and diſadvantages; but more eſpecially of the former. On its main points we have already declared, that the ſentiments of Sir Frederick Eden are congenial with our own; and his ſtatement of the queſtion, in his introductory obſervations, is ſo fair, and, as we think, ſo very ſatisfactory, that, in preparing the minds of his readers to a candid conſideration of it, conviction is already nearly produced.

We have read, as no doubt every Briton will, with particular pleaſure, this author's reference to that beſt ſource of future ſecurity, the undiminiſhed valour of our fleets and armies, as lately diſplayed on the coaſts and the plains of Egypt, where

the veterans of France were ſo completely beaten by the youth of Britain; and where that boaſtful people, who have ſo long been ſuffered to regard themſelves as the firſt military nation in Europe, muſt have learned, that, "even with ſuperior numbers, they are not more formidable to us in the field, than on the ocean," ſee p. 36; and ſee alſo an animating enumeration (chiefly becauſe it is, we believe, faithful and exact) of the force of the contending parties, together with the reſults of our naval and military victories in that country.

The greateſt part of the fourth Letter, "on the Trade with the Weſt-Indies," (p. 62) conſiſts of new matter, reſpecting the French colonies, and the Daniſh free-ports. Sir Frederick conceives, that it will be advantageous to Great Britain, to relax the reſtrictions of her celebrated Navigation-Act. This is a deep and difficult queſtion, on which we do not preſume to poſſeſs ſufficient commercial knowledge, to enable us to ſpeak with confidence. We know that very different opinions on the ſubject are entertained by many of our moſt enlightened politicians. Sir Frederick enters particularly into the conſideration of the three important points, on which the commerce of the Weſt Indies muſt turn; namely, 1. Their import of proviſions, lumber, and naval ſtores. 2. Their import of manufactures. And, 3. Their export of colonial produce. (p. 69) It is next ſhown, how his Majeſty's Miniſters, and the Government at large, may avail themſelves of the favourable opportunity, which the preſent ſituation of the new world affords: "1. To ſtrengthen the defence of the old colonies. 2. To provide for the increaſing demand for Weſt-India produce. And, 3. By opening new and extenſive markets, for the vent of our manufactures, to promote the proſperity of Great-Britain." P. 75. This leads him to a conſideration of the free-port ſyſtem; and, after enumerating the advantages which would reſult from its adoption on an extenſive ſcale (p. 85) he points out Trinidad and Tortola as good ſituations for free-ports, to compenſate the loſs of St. Thomas, Curaçoa, and Tobago. On ſuch intereſting details, any abſtracts or abridgments could neither do juſtice to the writer, nor be ſatisfactory to our readers; as to them, therefore, we refer to the work itſelf. In the fifth Letter, the Trade with North America, Africa, and Aſia, is inveſtigated. The ſixth Letter regards the Trade with foreign Europe, conſidered under two heads, namely, the trade with neutral, and the trade with the late belligerent, powers. The ſeventh Letter, "on the Coaſting Trade, and the Trade of Ireland," is moſtly new; and, in p. 161, are "ſtatements exhibiting the real value of the principal articles, the growth, produce, or manufacture of Great Britain

Britain or Ireland, exported to different parts of the world." Sir F.'s obſervations on commerce are concluded with an ingenious eſtimate of the future trade of Great Britain. He thinks its official value will not be leſs than 23,000,000l. which is within one twentieth of the amount of the export of Britiſh manufactures in 1800, the moſt thriving year noticed in this work.

"The ſtagnation which many branches of buſineſs experienced during the interval between the Preliminary Articles and the Definitive Treaty was not occaſioned by a general declenſion in our commerce; but may be fairly aſcribed to the protracted negotiation. The operations, however, of the mercantile claſſes are no longer perplexed by uncertainty. The treaty of peace aſſures them the trade of an enlarged and conſolidated empire; and their capital, ſkill, and ſpirit of enterprize will aſſure them an ample portion of the trade of the world." P. 173.

We are happy to add, in confirmation of the ſanguine expectations of this author, reſpecting the commerce of Great Britain, that the exports of the year 1801 (not mentioned in his work) exceed thoſe of 1800, and amounted to 43,250,000l. official value; and that the Britiſh manufactures exported laſt year amounted to 25,700,000l. official value (1,400,000l. more than the moſt proſperous preceding year) and to more than 43,000,000l. real value.

The eighth Letter, "on the Finances, and Definitive Treaty," is, we believe, entirely new. Hence it appears that, in 1786, the ſinking-fund was 1-238th part of the unredeemed debt; in 1793, 1-160th part; and, in February laſt, but 1-72d part: and that the ſinking-fund was leſs than a ninth of the annual intereſt and management of the unredeemed debt in 1786; leſs than a ſixth in 1793; and more than a third in 1802 (p. 182). In p. 186, it is ſhown that, by the ſolid ſyſtem of finance adopted by the laſt adminiſtration, we are indebted for ſavings in the national debt, to the amount of one hundred and thirty-five millions.

On the whole of this intereſting publication, we have no heſitation to declare, that the high rank, as a political œconomiſt, which Sir Frederick Eden had juſtly acquired by his former productions, is far from being leſſened by this his laſt contribution to our great national ſtores of political wiſdom.

ART.

ART. XV. *Richardi Relhan, A. M. (Villæ de Hemingly in Agro Lincolnienſi Rectoris; Regiæ Societatis Londinenſis Socii; et Societatis Linnæanæ Aſſoc.) Flora Cantabrigienſis, exhibens Plantas Agri Cantabrigienſis indigenas, ſecundum ſyſtema ſexuale digeſtas, cum Characteribus genericis, Diagnoſi ſpecierum, ſynonymis ſelectis, nominibus trivialibus, loco natali, tempore inflorescentiæ.* 8vo. 568 pp. 8s. Cantabrigiæ, typis Academicis. Veneunt Londoni, apud White, Payne, &c. 1802.

THE botanical world is well and generally acquainted with the meritorious labours of Mr. Relhan, whoſe firſt edition of the preſent work was publiſhed in 1785. Since that period, ſo numerous have been the additions to our native Botany, particularly in the Cryptogamia claſs, and ſo ſucceſsful have been the efforts of this diligent and able author, not only to keep pace with the diſcoveries of others, but to extend botanical ſcience himſelf, that no fewer than 1344 ſpecies of plants are now enumerated in the FLORA CANTABRIGIENSIS; though, when he firſt devoted his attention to the ſubject, the ſpecies in the Cambridge Catalogue amounted only to 829. The former edition of Mr. Relhan's work, with its ſupplement, enumerated 1211 ſpecies, ſo that the preſent offers a complete acceſſion of 133 plants, ſeveral of which are new to England.

Among the more curious *Fungi*, in this edition of the Flora, may be mentioned *Æcidium fuſcum*, ſometimes found growing on the under ſurface of the *Anemone nemoroſa*, which in this ſtate has frequently been called the Conjurer of Chalgrave's fern. This circumſtance is known to have impoſed even on the judgment of the very accurate *Dillenius*, who, in the laſt edition of *Ray's Synopſis*, deſcribes the wood Anemone, thus decorated by paraſitic vegetation, as a ſpecies of Fern. As we have mentioned this curious plant, we will inſert Mr. Relhan's deſcription of it, as a ſhort, but not unintereſting, ſpecimen of his work.

" 1330. *Fuſcum.* } ÆCIDIUM. ſeminibus fuſcis. *Gmel. Syſt. Nat.* 1473. *Raii Syn.* 124 t. 3. f. 1. *Hall.* 1154. *With.* 383. *Sower.* t. 53. Brown Æcidium. The Conjurer of Chalgrave's fern.
Woods, &c. III. IV.
On the leaves of the Anemone nemoroſa. Carduus arvenſis. Betonica officinalis. Adoxa maſchetellina.
Madingley wood. &c.
Plantula hæc præcipuè infoliis Anemones nemoroſæ et aliarum plantarum *paraſitat; præſertim paginam inferiorem, nonnunquam*

nunquam sed varius superiorem, vel ipsa petala utrinque occupans: initio pallidè lutea, orbiculata, sparsa, numerosa, in uno folio 600. Semina, epidermide sub qua latent demum fractâ, nuda apparent, filis destituta, non cohærentia, saturatè fusca; quibus tandem excussis, theca membranacea, suborbiculata, marginibus laceris, vacua persistit. Plantæ contiguæ sæpe in vetustiore statu confluunt. Folia, in quibus Æcidium parasitat, crassiora, rigidiora, filicum quodammodo æmula evadunt; pauca tamen specimina inveni ne minima quidem injuria visibili affecta." P. 546.

From some expressions in the Preface to this edition, it appears that the labours of Mr. Relhan have not yet been crowned with their merited reward; and we find that the unavoidable distraction of domestic affairs, with an income totally inadequate to the necessary expences of the times, together with the unavoidable sale of his library and *Herbarium**, have prevented the *Flora Cantabrigiensis*, ample as it now is, from attaining such a state of perfection as, to an author so very sedulous, can be completely satisfactory. We doubt not, however, that the abundant zeal and diligence, here exerted in the cause of science, will be found highly worthy of the public gratitude, and that some powerful aid will ere long be extended to an author, whose talents are so well calculated to enlarge the bounds of this elegant and useful study. It is peculiarly creditable to a learned University, to have its vicinity so accurately examined for natural productions, by the unremitting efforts of a person educated there.

ART. XVI. *Observations on the Winds and Monsoons, illustrated with a Chart; and accompanied with Notes, Geographical and Meteorological. By James Capper, formerly Colonel and Comptroller of the Army and Fortification Accompts on the Coast of Coromandel.* 4to. 234 pp. 15s. Debrett. 1801.

BEING well aware of the preference that ought at all times to be given to actual and well-authenticated observations, over all speculative disquisitions, and the best conceived theories, our attention was greatly excited, when we read, in one of the first pages of this work, that

"it is the result of a long series of remarks, made by a professional man, during upwards of thirty years occasional residence within the

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* The latter having passed, by purchase, into the possession of the Linnæan Society.

tropics,

tropics, and of the experience he has acquired in more than twenty times croſſing the equinoctial line; beſides coming from India by the Arabian Gulph, and returning thither by the Great Deſert and the Perſian Gulph."

This feeling was further enforced, when we learnt from his Preface, alſo, how aſſiduous he had been in collecting well-atteſted facts, and eſtabliſhed arguments, from the moſt eminent writers both of ancient and modern times. Impreſſed with theſe promiſing conſiderations, we previouſly congratulated ourſelves, and the public, on the acquiſition of a body of information concerning a ſubject, which has no doubt been hitherto involved in much error and obſcurity.

We are bound to acknowledge, that we have not been diſappointed as to the number and importance of the facts here preſented to our notice; but for the authenticity of many of them, we can only refer our readers to the credit and reputation of the author. As to the uſe he has made of them, and the theory he has deduced from them, we muſt content ourſelves with conveying a faint idea to our readers, by the ſlight ſketch which follows.

Conceiving, no doubt, that ſome hypotheſis concerning the origin and nature of winds, would be an uſeful preliminary to the inveſtigation he has undertaken, Mr. Capper ſets out by adopting the well-known expoſition of Bacon, more fully illuſtrated by Halley, that the expanſion of air by heat, and the contraction of it by cold, are evidently the immediate cauſes of its motion; or, in other words, of the currents of air we call winds. This he exemplifies by the familiar inſtance of the tendency which two maſſes of air of different temperatures, and conſequently of different denſities, in two contiguous rooms, will ever have to reſtore their equilibrium through any communication between them, the heavier portion moving in the lower part from the colder to the warmer room, while the more rarefied and lighter will proceed in a contrary direction along the upper region; an intermediate ſpace between theſe two oppoſite currents being left, where the denſities of the two maſſes of air being uniform, they will conſequently remain quieſcent.

This principle applied to the atmoſphere at large, and to the effects of the heat of the ſun in modifying its denſity, appears to be the baſis of the doctrine laid down in this work: and in order to account for various phænomena, which cannot be aſcribed to the agency of what are ſtrictly denominated winds, it is to be obſerved, that this tendency in the air to reſtore its equilibrium will produce currents, not only horizontal or inclined,

but alſo perpendicular, both aſcending and deſcending, according as the condenſation or rarefaction takes place, in different ſtrata in the atmoſphere. The atmoſpherical electricity, producing attractions and repulſions, eſpecially where aqueous vapours are concerned, is likewiſe occaſionally introduced as a powerful agent in thoſe operations of nature, which are the objects of this inveſtigation.

The author, in order to determine with ſome accuracy the objects he has in contemplation, has thought it expedient to diſtinguiſh the winds hitherto obſerved into four claſſes, or rather genera; namely, the perennial, improperly called the trade-winds; the periodical; the tropical; and, the general. Of theſe, the firſt excepted, there are many different ſpecies. In the ſecond claſs, are ranked the monſoons, the Mediterranean Eteſian, the tropical land-winds, the Khumſeen, the Sirocco, the long ſhore-winds, the Harmattan, and the land and ſea-breezes. The tropical winds include the Sumyel (or Samiel) the Miſtral, and the Bengal northweſter: and, in the laſt claſs are thoſe which prevail beyond the tropics, which might with equal propriety be called variable winds. All theſe winds, conſidered according to their intenſities, are likewiſe diſtinguiſhed into, 1, violent, ſuch as tempeſts, hurricanes, and whirlwinds; 2, ſtrong, which are the ſtorms, and what ſeamen call hard gales, guſts, or ſqualls; and, 3, moderate, ſuch as gales and breezes.

When we conſider that the winds of every denomination, though primarily actuated by a general cauſe, muſt be materially affected by a variety of ſecondary and local circumſtances, particularly the direction, prominence, and nature of the ſea-coaſts; the various temperatures ariſing from the extent, elevation, and territorial properties of continents or iſlands, the ridges of mountains, the courſes of large rivers, and other ſimilar features; we ſhall be compelled to admit, that this inveſtigation is far more complicated than may appear at firſt ſight. Our limits not permitting us to follow the author throughout his illuſtrations, we muſt requeſt our readers to be content with the following ſtatement of his mode of reaſoning in one inſtance, which, to avoid the imputation of partial ſelection, is the firſt that occurs in the book.

Treating of the winds that prevail on the oppoſite coaſts of the Atlantic, between the tropics, the author expreſſes himſelf as follows:

"The Weſt Coaſt of Africa, from Cape de Verd to two or three degrees S. is generally flat, with a ſandy ſoil; that part of it, therefore, which is ſituated near the equator, muſt be exceſſively hot at all ſeaſons of the year; but particularly about the two equinoxes. Within

many

many leagues of this coaſt, then, the ſea for nearly ten months of the year, being much cooler than the land, the current of air, to reſtore the equilibrium, muſt neceſſarily come almoſt conſtantly from the weſtward, according to the ſituation of the ſun, and the bearings of the land: but it will very ſeldom vary much from the weſtern point near this coaſt, except at the two ſolſtices. During the Harmattan (a kind of monſoon which prevails on this coaſt, while the ſun is near the northern tropic) and ſometimes at other ſeaſons, the wind will occaſionally blow a few hours before day, off the land. On the oppoſite Coaſt of America, for the ſame reaſon, the wind blows almoſt conſtantly towards the eaſt, varying perhaps a few degrees N. and S. according to the nature and ſituation of the neighbouring coaſt, and alſo of the ſun's place in the ecliptic." P. 35.

Without attempting to controvert the author's theory, or to call in queſtion any of the facts alledged by him, we feel ſome heſitation in acquieſcing in the whole of the above ſtatement; having obſerved ſome difference in the effect aſcribed to the Harmattan, between him and Dr. Dobſon, who, in a paper publiſhed in the 71ſt volume of the Philoſophical Tranſactions, informs us, that the land, or eaſterly wind, is much more prevalent on the Coaſt of Africa, during the period of that monſoon, than is admitted in the paſſage above quoted.

We think ourſelves bound to recommend to the author, ſhould he reprint this work, or favour the public with any other performance, to attend a little more to the arrangement of his materials; and eſpecially to relieve his readers by proper ſubdiviſions, and an enunciation to each ſection, deſcribing the point that is meant to be illuſtrated and confirmed. We ſpeak feelingly on the ſubject; the embarraſſment to which we are repeatedly expoſed for the want of the *lucidus ordo*, being too often the cauſe of great waſte of time and labour, for which we ſeldom receive a reaſonable compenſation.

BRITISH CATALOGUE.

POETRY.

ART. 17. *The Poetical Works of Eaglesfield Smith, Eſq.* 12mo. 270 pp. 4s. 6d. Johnſon. 1802.

The Advertiſement to theſe Poems is ſo modeſt and unaſſuming, that we are unwilling to ſpeak of them in any harſh terms of cenſure. Yet there are few, very few indeed, which we can, with the leaſt degree of juſtice, commend. The *Ode to Fear* (p. 120) is the only one which

we have obſerved that riſes, occaſionally, above mediocrity, and the Poems in general fall much below it. We will give the moſt favourable ſpecimen, by citing the two firſt ſtanzas of the Ode alluded to.

" Say, baleful haunter of the murderer's tomb,
What brings thee from the darkſome Stygian gloom,
To ſound on earth thy ſhadowy ſhell,
Of midnight maſſacres to tell?
On this green iſle fix not thy dread abode,
As erſt thou didſt when civil broil beſtrode,
With'ring our youth amid their vernal bloom:
Hence to the darkſome ſhades of night,
Or on ſome tyrant's creſt alight,
And with thy dreadful lay prognoſticate his doom.

Shake thy rude pinions 'mid the clang of war,
Where Freedom ruſhes, thund'ring from afar;
O bring with thee thy imps of hell,
Ring in the tyrant's ears the yell,
Through all his Gothic realms diſaſter boding,
Plagues, cruel wars, and famine, fierce, corroding,
Till Freedom comes, his frighted hoſts to dare,
O ſit beſide him, thron'd in pow'r,
Upon his iron ſceptre low'r,
And o'er his impious reign hang like a baleful ſtar."

The Tales are in general confuſed, improbable, and told in very indifferent language. In his endeavours to imitate the ſtyle of ancient ballads, the author ſinks completely to the regions of *Namby Pamby*. A long Ballad, called Erin, is a groſs plagiariſm from Mr. Lewis's well-known tale of " Alonzo the Brave and the Fair Imogene." This is a practice which our duty compels us to cenſure.

ART. 18. *Select Tranſlations from the Works of Homer and Horace: with Original Poems. By Gilbert Thompſon, M. D.* 12mo. 163 pp. 3s. 6d. Phillips. 1801.

To tranſlate either Homer or Horace with fidelity, and at the ſame time with ſpirit, is no eaſy taſk. Dr. Thompſon, who is manifeſtly a man of claſſical taſte, ſucceeds better in the former of theſe attempts than the latter. Some of the Odes of Horace are rendered into a kind of Lyric blank verſe, like Milton's Tranſlation of the celebrated Ode to Pyrrha. This method we cannot approve. Rhyme is ſtill more requiſite in Lyric than in Heroic poetry. The Original Poems have nothing very diſtinguiſhing; they ſcarcely ever riſe above mediocrity, and ſeldom fall below it. The following Latin Epigram has original merit, nor can *its length* deter us from inſerting it.

" *De Baculo Pampineo.*

Palmite, Bacche, tuo nitar, nec, Liber, iniquum eſt
Ut firmes greſſus, qui facis ut titubem."

ART. 19. *The Wreath, or Miſcellaneous Poetical Gleanings; including Originals from reſpectable Sources. By C. Earnſhaw.* 12mo. 4s. 6d. Mawman.

So numerous, of late years, have been the collections of miſcellaneous poetry, that a publication of this kind muſt either conſiſt chiefly of pieces familiar to almoſt every reader, or it muſt, in a great meaſure, be, as the title of this book imports, a "gleaning" of ſuch Poems as have been neglected by other compilers, probably from their not poſſeſſing any diſtinguiſhed merit. We have in this ſelection a few well-known compoſitions of Prior, Gray, Thomſon, Collins, Goldſmith, Cowper, and Burns; but the miſcellany is, in general, compiled from writers of the preſent day, and contains very few Poems ſo beautiful, or paſſages ſo ſtriking, as to call for a republication. There is, however, ſufficient variety in this little volume, and many of the original pieces are worthy of at leaſt one peruſal.

ART. 20. *Sketches in Elegy; and other ſmall Poems.* 8vo. 40 pp. 1s. Cawthorn. 1802.

We have toiled (as became us) through the forty pages of theſe Poems:—they who have impoſed upon themſelves no ſuch taſk, will perhaps heſitate at the end of the ſixth line. Six better lines they will not find in the book.

"THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.
Unhappy man! that wand'ring goes
The thorny path of human woes,
In quick deluſion haſtes away
The fleeting minutes of his day;
Nor harbours he the preſent hour
Rapacious Time doth faſt devour." P. 5.

DRAMATIC.

ART. 21. *The Poor Gentleman. A Comedy, in Five Acts. As performed at the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden. By George Colman (the Younger).* 8vo. 84 pp. 2s. 6d. Longman and Rees. 1801.

"*Virtus eſt vitium fugere, et ſapientia prima,*
Stultitia caruiſſe."

It is ſome merit in a Comedy of the preſent day, to be free from the groſs abſurdities that diſguſt us in the Farces of five acts, which of late have uſurped the name of Comedy. The plot of this drama is indeed ſlender, and not diverſified by any variety of incidents. A half-pay officer, in very narrow circumſtances, has retired to lodge at a farm-houſe in Kent, with a beautiful and amiable daughter, and a maiden aunt of his late wife. He is alarmed by the apprehenſion of an arreſt, owing to the death of a friend, for whom he had been bound, and diſguſted by the contrivances of a profligate young Baronet in the neighbourhood, to ſeduce or carry off his daughter; but is reſtored to happineſs

happineſs by the benevolence of a ſingular old gentleman (a Baronet alſo) whoſe nephew, an eccentric but generous youth, delivers the daughter from her perſecutor, and is rewarded with her hand. The other principal comic character is a military and ſporting apothecary, whoſe language and manners border upon farce, but tend to enliven the repreſentation; as the play is, upon the whole, of the ſentimental kind. The old Baronet has, however, one comic ſingularity, that of diſliking every perſon who will not contradict and argue with him; and ſome of the inferior characters are not wholly without humour. The ſcene between Lieutenant Worthington (the Poor Gentleman) and Sir Robert Bramble, who has waited upon him for the purpoſe of learning his ſituation and ſerving him, is, we think, one of the beſt in the play; and we would inſert it, as a ſpecimen, could we ſuppoſe a ſpecimen to be wanted of a piece ſo popular. A detached ſcene of a Comedy appears to little advantage. The concluſion is not wrought with any great ſkill or dramatic effect; but if this Comedy does not very highly pleaſe in the peruſal, it certainly will not offend.

ART. 22. *John Woodvil. A Tragedy. By C. Lamb. To which are added, Fragments of Burton, the Author of the Anatomy of Melancholy.* Small 8vo. 128 pp. Robinſons. 1802.

We had occaſion formerly to ſpeak of a joint publication, of which Mr. Lamb was one of the authors, and to give rather a favourable opinion of it. Of that before us, we are not enabled to ſpeak in any terms of praiſe. The ſtory of the Tragedy is ſimply this. Sir Walter Woodvil, a knight, having favoured the uſurpation of Cromwell, is obliged to abſcond (together with his younger ſon, Simon) on the reſtoration of Charles II. John, the elder ſon, remains at the family ſeat, diſſipating the wealth of the family in riot and extravagance; and, in a drunken fit, diſcovers to one of his companions the place of his father's retreat. This faithleſs friend goes immediately, with an aſſiſtant, to arreſt Sir Walter; but they are repelled by his younger ſon, who frightens them away. Sir Walter, however, is himſelf ſo alarmed, or ſo hurt at the idea of having been betrayed by his elder ſon, that he drops down dead that inſtant. The remorſe of John for his indiſcretion, and the conſolation adminiſtered by (the beſt of comforters) a young lady, whom he had long loved, form the remaining ſcenes of the piece. It concludes with the following ſpeeches, which will afford as fair a ſpecimen of the author's ſtyle (a mixture of very puerile proſe, and very irregular blank verſe) as any part of the performance.

" *John.* Then I remember'd, 'twas the ſabbath day,
Immediately a wiſh aroſe in my mind,
To go to church and pray with Chriſtian people,
And then I check'd myſelf, and ſaid to myſelf,
" Thou haſt been a heathen, John, theſe two years paſt,"
(Not having been at church in all that time)
" And is it fit, that now for the firſt time,
Thou ſhould'ſt offend the eyes of Chriſtian people
With a murderer's preſence in the houſe of prayer?

Thou

Thou would'ſt but diſcompoſe their pious thoughts,
And do thyſelf no good: for how could'ſt thou pray,
With unwaſh'd hands, and lips unus'd to the offices?"
And then I at my own preſumption ſmiled;
And then I wept that I ſhould ſmile at all,
Having ſuch cauſe of grief! I wept outright;
Tears, like a river, flooded all my face,
And I began to pray, and found I could pray,
And ſtill I yearn'd to ſay my prayers in the church.
"Doubtleſs (ſaid I) one might find comfort in it."—
So ſtealing down the ſtairs, like one that fear'd detection,
Or was about to act unlawful buſineſs
At that dead time of dawn,
I flew to the church, and found the doors wide open,
(Whether by negligence I knew not,
Or ſome peculiar grace to me vouchſaf'd,
For all things felt like myſtery.)

"*Margaret.* Yes.—

"*John.* So entering in, not without fear,
I paſt into the family pew,
And covering up my eyes for ſhame,
And deep perception of unworthineſs,
Upon the little haſſock knelt me down,
Where I ſo oft had kneel'd,
A docile infant, by Sir Walter's ſide;
And, thinking ſo, I wept a ſecond flood
More poignant than the firſt;—
But afterwards was greatly comforted,
It ſeem'd, the guilt of blood was paſſing from me
Even in the act and agony of tears,
And all my ſins forgiven." P. 102.

The "family pew," and "the little haſſock," form undoubtedly a pious, but a wretched dramatic, cataſtrophe; and the ſudden forgiveneſs is not a little puritanical.

The Fragments from Burton are, we conceive, only imitations of that author; and they exhibit ſome ingenuity in imitation. The ſtyle of the original is, however, ſo peculiar, that there can be no great difficulty in copying it; and his work is celebrated at preſent, not for any merit in the manner of writing, which certainly it has not, but for the curious variety of the matter.

NOVEL.

ART. 23. *Farther Excurſions of the Obſervant Pedeſtrian, exemplified in a Tour to Margate: in Four Volumes. By the Author of the "Obſervant Pedeſtrian," in Two Volumes; "Myſtic Cottager," "Montroſe," &c.* 8vo. 16s. Dutton. 1801.

A deeply ſentimental journey; in which the traveller, at almoſt every ſtep, meets with objects of compaſſion; to whom *ſhe* diſpenſes her

her money, and her moral leſſons, with no niggardly ſpirit. The four volumes contain more than a hundred ſhort tales, for the moſt part unconnected, and narrated in a ſtyle neither very elegant, nor perfectly accurate. The reſidence at Margate affords an opportunity of exhibiting caricatures of tradeſmen, with their wives and daughters, from Whitechapel, Wapping, and other places of the ſame celebrity. If perſons of this ſort can be laughed out of the folly of aſpiring to be *faſhionable*, ſome good will be effected; but the preſent chance of accompliſhing ſuch a purpoſe, will be purchaſed rather dearly at ſixteen ſhillings.

MEDICINE.

ART. 24. *An Epitome of Chemiſtry, in Three Parts. By William Henry. Second Edition, corrected.* 12mo. 221 pp. 5s. Johnſon. 1801.

The firſt appearance of this little work having by ſome accident been overlooked by us, and the ſale of that edition having been ſo rapid, the author ſays, as to allow him no time to make any material alteration or addition, we have only to add our teſtimony to the general ſuffrage of the profeſſors of the art, in favour of its utility. The firſt and ſecond parts contain directions for making experiments to diſcover the properties and conſtituent parts of bodies; the third, inſtructions for applying the chemical teſts and reagents. The whole is arranged and delivered in a clear and perſpicuous manner.

ART. 25. *Medicinæ praxeos compendium, Symptomata, cauſas, Diagnoſin, prognoſin, et medendi rationem exhibens, auctore E. G. Clark, M. D. Editio ſecunda.* 12mo. 224 pp. 5s. 6d. Johnſon. 1801.

The diſeaſes are, in general, conciſely and accurately deſcribed; their cauſes, as far as they are known, aſcertained; and the moſt approved methods of cure propoſed; ſo that we may ſafely recommend this little work, as a convenient and uſeful repoſitory for medical ſtudents.

DIVINITY.

ART. 26. *Chriſtian Principles the only Foundation of conſiſtent Virtue. A Sermon, preached at St. Edmund's Bury, before the Honourable Sir Naſh Groſe, Knt. at the Aſſizes, held there for the County of Suffolk, March 26, 1802. By the Rev. George Mathew, A. M. Chaplain to the High Sheriff. Publiſhed at the Requeſt of the Members for the County, in the Name of the Gentlemen preſent.* 4to. 24 pp. Rivingtons. 1802.

The circumſtances attending the publication of this Sermon, are highly creditable both to the preacher and to the hearers of it. A diſcourſe, admirably well adapted to the exigence of the times, is heard by a venerable Judge with profound attention; is warmly commended

mended by him in his Charge to the Grand Jurors; and is publiſhed at the requeſt of the Members for the County, in the name of the Gentlemen preſent; including (no doubt) many reſpectable Magiſtrates. When ſound religious admonitions meet with ſo favourable a reception, we cannot but conſole ourſelves with a hope, that the ſtate of public morals is much leſs deplorable than ſevere cenſors repreſent it.

In a very proper Dedication to the Judge, we find, with great ſatisfaction, a moſt important ſtatement, the correctneſs of which we are happy in atteſting:—"the uniform hoſtility of our Engliſh Judges to immorality, and their faithful enforcement of the ſpirit of thoſe higher laws, which were given us equally for guides to happineſs, and for rules of duty." P. iv. The ſucceeding paragraph, on another topic, induces us to think, that in poetry, as well as in proſe, the author would diſtinguiſh himſelf.

Diſcourſing on Luke xvi. 15, the preacher (after an appropriate exordium) propoſes to urge upon his hearers this important maxim: "that it is only by acting on the genuine and fundamental principles of the Goſpel, which teaches us to make the revealed will of God the ſole rule of our actions, that we can lay any foundation for conſiſtency and permanence in public or private virtue." P. 8. The evil conſequences of acting without this principle, are exhibited in various characters: 1ſt, in what is called a *liberal* and *generous* man, whom the world admires and extols; overlooking, as venial errors, his diſſipation, extravagance, and profligacy. 2dly, in the *avaricious* man, particularly in him, who amaſſes wealth by aggravating the public diſtreſs in ſeaſons of *ſcarcity*. 3dly, in the man of *falſe honour*, who is vicious, injurious to all around him, and deſtitute of common honeſty. Laſtly, in him, who raiſes in others, or indulges in himſelf without ſcruple, the *licentious paſſions*. Each of theſe characters is "juſtified, and highly eſteemed among men;" but "is abomination in the ſight of God." The preacher then reminds his hearers of "the difference between a conduct founded on the judgment of mankind, and that eſtabliſhed on the principles of Chriſtianity." P. 19. And he concludes, by impreſſing upon them this great truth: "that on the cultivation of the religious principle alone, depend the collective intereſts of this world, and all the hopes of individuals in a better." The ſeveral popular errors, which we have thus briefly ſtated, are here expoſed and confuted by ſound arguments, expreſſed in animated language.

A note to this Sermon might well have been diſpenſed with. We do not allow, that "Chriſtianity has received a glorious triumph," or any triumph whatever, from "the public decree for the re-eſtabliſhment of religion in France."—"Her truth and importance" diſdain any "confirmation," from the declamations of French orators; from the acknowledgments of the profligate Mirabeau; from the reports of Lucien, or even from the edicts of Napoleon Bonaparte.

ART. 27. *A Charge, by John Ryland, D. D. and a Sermon, by James Hinton, delivered Nov.* 17, 1801, *at the Ordination of Thomas Coles, A. M. to the Paſtoral Care of the Baptiſt Church, at Bouſton-on-the-Water, Glouceſterſhire.* 53 pp. Harris and Bryan, Briſtol.

Excepting now and then a quaintneſs of ſtyle and argument, many of the inſtructions given in the Charge are undeniably good, and applicable to any order of Miniſters in the Church of Chriſt. As the Charge conſiſts of admonitions to the paſtor, in regard to the care of his flock, the Sermon is rather addreſſed to the congregation at large, inculcating a reverential attendance on the preaching of the Miniſter, a veneration for his perſon, and a conſcientious ſupport in his adminiſtration of the word. There is little that is exceptionable, either in ſtyle or matter, allowance being made for the author's attachment to a particular form of church government; much of the advice is generally applicable, and cannot fail to be of ſalutary effect, wherever properly attended to.

ART. 28. *The Memory of the Juſt. A Sermon, preached January* 3, 1802, *at Biſhop Stortford, Herts, on the Death of the Rev. John Angus, upwards of Fifty-four Years Miniſter of the Goſpel in that Town; who died December* 22, 1801, *in the Seventy-eighth Year of his Age. By William Chaplin. Publiſhed at the Requeſt of the Congregation.* 8vo. 39 pp. 1s. Conder. 1802.

A pious and eloquent addreſs; honourable to the memory of the deceaſed paſtor, and inſtructive to his ſurviving flock. The religious ſentiments of Mr. Angus "were what are commonly called Calviniſtic." What thoſe of the preacher, his co-paſtor, are, it does not diſtinctly appear; but they ſeem to have leſs of that tendency.

ART. 29. *Thoughts on the Harveſt. A Sermon, preached at the Chapel of St. Mary, Penzance, Sunday, January* 17, 1802, *being the Second Sunday after the Epiphany. By Charles Valentine le Grice, A. B. late Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge.* 8vo. 32 pp. 1s. Badcock, &c. 1802.

A collection of ſoundly pious thoughts, expreſſed in animated language, partly from Biſhop Atterbury and Dr. Dodd, and partly original. The preacher firſt points out our obligation to praiſe and thankſgiving in general; and then ſome eſpecial motives to gratitude at the ſeaſon in which he was ſpeaking, and the reflections "which moſt naturally ariſe from a view of the vegetable creation, *the riches of the earth.*" P. 7.

ART. 30. *Reflections, ſuggeſted by the Cloſe of the Year; being a Sermon, preached at Brading, in the Iſle of Wight, on Sunday, the* 29*th of December,* 1799, *and now printed for the Uſe of his Pariſhioners. By the Rev. Legh Richmond, A. M. Third Edition. To which is added, Some Obſervations upon the prevalent Cuſtom of exerciſing the Volunteer Corps on the Lord's Day.* 8vo. 24 pp. 4d. Rivingtons. 1801.

Very ſalutary reflections, expreſſed in animated language; and worthy to be inculcated by a Chriſtian miniſter, in any ſeaſon of the

year, on the minds of thoſe committed to his care. Joining cordially with the author, in the tribute of praiſe which he pays to our volunteer forces, we join him alſo in diſapproving of their military exerciſing, in the Iſle of Wight, on Sundays. We are at a loſs to conceive how this practice could be juſtified by neceſſity (the only ſufficient plea) in one part of the kingdom, when experience proves that no ſuch neceſſity exiſted in moſt other parts.

ART. 31. *Plain Thoughts on the New-Teſtament Doctrine of Atonement. By John Simpſon, of Hackney, London.* 91 pp. Johnſon. 1802.

As Mr. Simpſon tells us himſelf, that he wrote and publiſhed this pamphlet expreſsly becauſe "he had never ſeen any thing written profeſſedly on the ſubject which appeared to him ſatisfactory," (p. 11) we cannot forbear recommending to his careful peruſal, Dr. Magee's late publication, not merely as written profeſſedly on the ſubject of Atonement, but as very peculiarly, and in a moſt maſterly manner, treating of ſome of the very points on which Mr. S. lays moſt ſtreſs. Like too many of the ſame ſect, Mr. S. indulges much in ſcurrility, attributing all difference of opinion in his opponents to the baſeſt motives he can aſſign. We are too much accuſtomed to the inconſiſtency of ſuch complaints, and ſuch boaſts, as the following, to do more than merely notice them. "Had Chriſtianity remained as it was left by Chriſt and his Apoſtles, we ſhould not ſee one party preſſing down, or intimidating others, by penal laws, or excluding them from ſuch civil ſtations as their wiſdom or virtue might qualify them to occupy, with honour (and profit generally) to themſelves, and advantage to ſociety." P. 9. So far the complaint, the conſtant complaint, of Diſſenters. Now for the boaſt: "Men, ſuch as thoſe who brought Chriſtianity firſt into the world, muſt be the perſons employed to propagate it, whoſe pure minds, uninfluenced by low lucrative motives, will be much more gratified by the ſublime pleaſure of honouring God, and doing good to men, than in the enjoyment of all the honours and riches the world can beſtow." P. 10. Then, where the hardſhip of excluding ſuch people (of whom, no doubt, Mr. S. thinks himſelf one) from *low, lucrative* ſituations incompatible with genuine Chriſtianity?

POLITICS.

ART. 32. *An Appeal to Experience and Common Senſe, by a Compariſon of the preſent with former Periods.* 8vo. 50 pp. 1s. 6d. Hatchard. 1802.

"It is the duty," this writer obſerves, "of every friend to his country, to diſpel prejudices unfavourable to its proſperity." This he endeavours to do, and with ſucceſs, by comparing our ſituation at the preſent moment, with that in which we were placed by the Peace of 1763, and again in 1783. On both thoſe occaſions, he ſtates there were not wanting writers, who aſſerted, "that the reſources of the country were exhauſted, and predicted that rival nations would underſell us abroad, and become triumphant competitors even in our market

at home." He points out the fallacy of thoſe predictions, and the great increaſe of our commerce immediately after that event. He then proceeds to the war with America, France, Spain, and Holland, which was terminated by the Peace of 1783; an event which, as he expreſſes it, "was attended with a plentiful effuſion of prophetic deſpondency." The national debt had increaſed, ſince 1775, 110,275,341l. and there appeared an unfunded debt of 24,585,157l. and at that time the revenue did not meet the expenditure by upwards of a million. The reſources within ourſelves were however amply ſufficient for the purpoſe of recruiting our finances; and in 1786 the preſent ſinking-fund was eſtabliſhed, and the ſtate was pledged to ſupport and protect its operation. This meaſure, and the firmneſs by which it has been ſupported, receives from the author before us very ſtrong and judicious commendations.

After ſome ſenſible reflections on the mercantile failures, and other events, previous to the late war, the author touches briefly on the principal occurrences during its continuance; and, while he admits, that "the iſſue of this war has diſappointed the hopes that were entertained at the commencement of it," inſiſts that, "in addition to the brilliant victories which have raiſed our navy to an inacceſſible ſuperiority, we have poſſeſſed, and always exerted, the means of preſerving the integrity of our laws and conſtitution, and gone on in a progreſſive increaſe of our national wealth, induſtry, and commerce."

He then points out the flouriſhing ſtate of our navy and increaſing commercial greatneſs, and paints the great difficulties which France muſt experience in reviving her trade, and in endeavouring to rival the manufactures of Britain. Our agricultural improvements, and the benefits likely to ariſe from the Union with Ireland, are noticed. There are alſo ſome pertinent remarks on the late ſcarcity of proviſions, and on the delay in ſigning the Definitive Treaty; two ſubjects of anxiety now happily removed. The author concludes this well-intended, and, upon the whole, judicious tract, with ſhowing how unlikely it is that France ſhould be able to injure our commerce, or excel us in thoſe manufactures, which are the principal ſource of our proſperity.

MISCELLANIES.

ART. 33. *Literary Leiſure; or, the Recreations of Solomon Saunter, Eſq. Two Volumes.* 8vo. 12s. Miller. 1802.

Notwithſtanding the number and variety of publications like this, ſince the time of the Spectator, there is ſomething in them ſo congenial and acceptable to the general reader, that, if executed with tolerable ability, they never fail to meet with a great degree of encouragement. There is in a judicious mixture of eſſays, tales, biographical ſketches, and poetry, what the learned reader does not always diſdain, and to the leſs learned will eventually convey both information and amuſement. Theſe volumes are perhaps unequal, but they

they are generally entertaining, in no ſmall degree, and ſome of the ſtories remarkably well told. That, in particular, of Philip Dellwyn, in the firſt volume, and of Seraphina, in the ſecond, are peculiarly intereſting. The firſt, indeed, with very little management, would have made a novel, far better than the great majority of thoſe, which are every week obtruded on the public. The poetry alſo is generally very elegant. The following ſhort ſpecimen, ſuppoſed to be written by a lady deſerted by her lover, muſt excite the reader's intereſt:

" I caught a bright fantaſtic cloud,
And in the glittering moonlight dreſs'd it;
Then, of the beauteous pageant proud,
Too fondly to my boſom preſs'd it.

I fancied by the dubious light,
I ſaw my phantom ſweetly ſmiling;
My boſom throbb'd with wild delight,
All reaſon's ſober fears beguiling.

What dreams of joy my ſoul revolv'd!
What pleaſant viſions hover'd o'er me!
Till, by th' incautious warmth diſſolv'd,
My treaſure faded from before me.

Condemn'd henceforward ſtill to grieve,
My ſenſes rove in wild confuſion;
Nor can I ſcarcely yet believe
My bliſs was all a vain illuſion.

From treacherous hope will I no more
Deceitful forms of pleaſure borrow;
But ſilently my loſs deplore,
And ſink a prey to ſilent ſorrow,"

There are ſome marks of a careleſs writer; ſuch as, in p. 2, vol. i. " a phyſician cannot be admitted without a bag-wig." What phyſician now wears a bag-wig?—P. 12. In enumerating the popular periodical papers, the Mirror is placed between the Spectator and the Guardian: and, at p. 14, we have " autorical vanity", for the vanity of an author. Nevertheleſs, the two volumes are well deſerving our commendation; and if, in ſome reſpects, they may ſeem to want the merit of originality, they contain a great many intereſting, inſtructive, and entertaining papers.

ART. 34. *Remarks on the Rev. Dr. Vincent's Defence of Public Education; with an Attempt to ſtate fairly the Queſtion, whether the Religious Inſtruction and Moral Conduct of the riſing Generation are ſufficiently provided for, and effectually ſecured, in our Schools and Univerſities. Together with the Sentiments of ſeveral late Writers, and others, on this important Subject. By a Layman.* 8vo. 1s. 6d. Hatchard. 1802.

Never was a difference of opinion expreſſed in a more mild and reſpectful manner than by this unknown writer, who deſerves therefore

to

to meet with opponents equally temperate. Controverſy, thus conducted, loſes all its deformities.

The queſtion ſtated in his title-page is, however, very different from that ſo ably handled by Dr. Vincent. "Whether the Religious Inſtruction and Moral Conduct of the riſing Generation are *ſufficiently provided for*, and *effectually ſecured*, in our Schools," &c. Dr. V. contended only, that theſe great objects are very far from being ſyſtematically and contemptuouſly neglected, as had been alledged. What proviſion might be deemed *ſufficient* for ſuch a purpoſe, it is not eaſy to ſay; though, in our opinion, that ought in prudence to be ſo eſteemed, which provides for information, without producing diſguſt. As to the idea of *effectually ſecuring* the moral conduct of a whole generation, we fear it belongs only to the delicious dreams of Utopian improvement.

In the former part of this tract, the writer endeavours to prove, that a great part of Dr. Vincent's Defence was written in haſte and anger. We believe that the learned Doctor never wiſhed it to be ſuppoſed, that he was without the natural feelings of an honeſt man, on finding himſelf implicated in a charge of a moſt atrocious kind; totally inconſiſtent with the principles and practice of his life. Command of paſſions is highly laudable; but the total eradication of feeling is hardly to be expected.

With reſpect to the Claſſics, this gentleman, though a warm advocate for the ſtudy of them, has ſome ideas on the ſubject which are not very practicable. The attempt to *purify* them has a ſpecious appearance; but who does not know that the Delphin Editions, where the offenſive parts are either uninterpreted or removed to the end, invite rather than repel the curioſity of youth? Poor Terence is ſentenced altogether to be burned. We confeſs that we ſhould anxiouſly conceal our copies from ſuch an *inquiſition*, firmly believing the miſchief attributed to him to be entirely chimerical. But no ſyllogiſm can convey experience, and without it many errors in education cannot be refuted. We ſhall, therefore, conclude our remarks on this Layman, only by repeating our admiration of the manner, which exceeds even our diſſent from ſome part of the matter of his pamphlet.

ART. 35. *The Force of Contraſt continued; or, Extracts and Animadverſions, with occaſional Strictures, on the Contraſter, and others of Mr. Bere's Opponents: and Obſervations on Mrs. H. More's Schools. To which is added, a Poſtſcript on the Editors of the Britiſh Critic, reſpectfully ſubmitted to the Conſideration of thoſe who have intereſted themſelves in the Blagdon Controverſy. By a Friend of the Eſtabliſhment.* 8vo. 94 pp. Hurſt. 1802.

This is a ſtrong pamphlet on the ſide of Mr. Bere. The accuſations againſt us in the cloſe of the tract are very violent; but we cannot repel them without entering into a detail in our own caſe, which we have refuſed in other parts of the diſpute. We ſhall only ſay as an innocent man once did, after hearing an elaborate pleading againſt himſelf: "If I did not know that I never ſtole any thing, I ſhould almoſt be perſuaded that I had committed this theft."

ART.

ART. 36. *Animadverſions on the Curate of Blagdon's Three Publications, entitled the Controverſy between Mrs. Hannah More and the Curate of Blagdon, &c. An Appeal to the Public, and an Addreſs to Mrs. Hannah More. With ſome Alluſions to his Cambrian Deſcent from Gwyr ap Glendour, Ap Cadwallader, Ap Styfnig, as affirmed and ſet forth by himſelf, in the 28th Page of his Appeal to the Public.* 8vo. 55 pp. Hatchard. 1802.

This is a ſtrong pamphlet againſt Mr. Bere.—

We ſhall endeavour to enumerate the reſt of theſe things another time.

ART. 37. *A Diſſertation, moral and political, on the Influence of Luxury and Refinement on Nations, with Reflections on the Manners of the Age at the Cloſe of the Eighteenth Century. By Adam Sibbit, A. B. Rector of Clarendon, in the Iſland of Jamaica.* 8vo. Cadell and Davies. 1800.

The purpoſe of this Diſſertation is, "to point out thoſe public and private virtues, whoſe genial influence produce health and longevity to a ſtate; and thoſe baleful vices, which bring on, with rapid ſteps, debility and corruption." P. 8. A favourable ſpecimen of this work may be procuced from pp. 23, 27, &c. and we ſelect it, as deſcribing with no ſmall exactneſs the preſent ſtate of letters in ſome parts of Europe, though England, we truſt, is yet ſlightly affected by the contagion.

"At this critical period, when the Roman people were thus rapidly deſcending into an effeminate and voluptuous mode of life, and ſuffering the rigour and auſterity of their ancient manners to be deſtroyed by the influence of luxury, their minds were aſſailed by the faſhionable precepts of a new philoſophy, that had a tendency to ſubvert every principle of religion and morality, upon which the pillars of ſociety are founded. It was from Greece, that this literary poiſon was conveyed." P. 23.—"The fever of ambition, the deſire of diſtinction, which ſometimes inſpires the literary hero, is often as fatal to the repoſe of mankind as the military ardour, which impels the conqueror to carry devaſtation and terror over the world, in ſearch of laurels and of triumphs. Every conſideration is ſacrificed to vanity and fame; and the praiſe of men, by people of this ſtamp, is preferred to the approbation of heaven. The moſt effectual method, therefore, to gratify this reſtleſs paſſion, and to obtain the admiration of the crowd, is to attack every thing which the world had hitherto deemed ſacred and venerable in religion and in morals. To endeavour to confound the diſtinctions of right and wrong, to miſlead and to corrupt the giddy populace by the boldneſs and the novelty of their aſſertions, is a ſure way to be conſpicuous for a time, and to live in the mouths of men; and paradoxes, abſurdities, cynic arrogance, and obſcenity, will too often, in a vicious age, gain more applauſe than the ſublime productions of genius and virtue. The epigrams of a buffoon, the whining elegy, and the flimſy novel, will be read with avidity in frivolous times, while Homer and Milton, and Demoſthenes and Burke, will be neglected:

lected: for luxury and vice have a tendency to corrupt and debilitate the mind, as well as the body; to contaminate our intellectual taste, as well as our moral perceptions; and, when we want energy and purity of soul to comprehend the vast and grand, or to be charmed with the delicate and elegant compositions of true genius, we, from the mere depravity of our faculties, delight to feed upon the disgusting garbage, or the impertinent conceits, of the literary profligates of the day, the immoral and puny writers of a degenerate age; and there is nothing, perhaps, so fatal to the morals of a nation as corrupt and vicious literary productions, as they diffuse their influence over a large space, and affect all ranks and descriptions of men." P. 27.

At p. 86, the author gives a flattering picture of the present state of this island; yet he fears it has passed "the meridian of energy and virtue." We think that, within the last ten years, our energy has been conspicuously displayed to the world; and we do not admit, that whoever wishes to contemplate a nation in its progressive or youthful state, must direct his view to North America, as most of the countries on this side of the Atlantic "begin to put on the broken appearance of age." P. 105. The concluding exhortations are just and animated; and, though the style of the author is rather too declamatory, and occasionally inaccurate, yet we think him entitled to a respectable rank among the moral teachers of the present times.

ART. 38. *An Address to the British Volunteers, and my Countrymen, respecting the threatened Invasion of England by French Usurpers! By a Volunteer and a plain Englishman.* 8vo. 15 pp. 1s. Hatchard. 1801.

Our notice of this Address has unluckily been delayed, till any recommendation of it would be useless. In justice, however, to the author, we must say, that it is a spirited exhibition of those crimes and miseries, by which the French lately deluged their own, and every other country they invaded.

FOREIGN CATALOGUE.

FRANCE.

ART. 39. *De la chaleur animale et de ses divers rapports d'après une explication nouvelle des phénomènes calorifiques, avec l'examen de l'opinion de différens auteurs modernes sur le même sujet; par* F. Josse, de Rennes. Paris; pr. 5 fr. 25 c.

This work has fixed the attention of the School of Medicine at Paris, and has obtained from them a favourable report.

Espr. d. Journ.

ART. 40. *Le Voyageur curieux et ſentimental, ouvrage en deux parties, contenant 1° le voyage de Chantilly et d'Ermenonville; 2°. le voyage aux iſles Borromées par* Louis D. (amin), *membre de pluſieurs ſociétés littéraires.* 2e ed. Paris.

We conceived that we had before us ſome part of *Triſtram Shandy*, and that we ſaw uncle Toby, with his aſs, on reading the following chapter, *le cheval debridé:*

" J'apperçois mon cheval ſans bride...Je me lève...je cours...heureuſement l'animal étoit d'un caractère pacifique, et ne profitoit de ſa liberté que pour brouter le gazon plus à ſon aiſe. Quelle leçon! la bride en mains, je le rejoins. A l'aſpect du mords, il recule, dreſſe les oreilles, regarde de côté....le champ lui étoit ouvert. Il ne tenoit qu'à lui...je lus dans ſes regards le germe de l'inſubordination. Je tremblai...que faire? la ſituation étoit critique. Parler en maître!.... c'en étoit fait, il eût ſecoué le joug: l'abus de l'autorité mène à l'indépendance. Je le ſavois, et puis je me rappelai ce vers du bon Lafontaine:

Mieux vaut douceur que violence.

" Je m'approche doucement de l'animal ſemirétif. Je le careſſe de la voix et du geſte: il tourne vers moi ſa belle tête où ſe peignoit encore un reſte d'indocilité. Je paſſe légérement ma main ſur ſon cou; j'approche ma joue de la ſienne, en le flattant avec douceur....Senſible à ce procédé, il ſe rend et ſaiſit de lui-même le mords que je lui préſente. Comme ſa phiſionomie étoit expreſſive! comme ſon regard étoit touchant! Il me ſembloit dire; n'abuſe pas de l'empire que je te cède. Ne crains rien, lui répondis-je, en mettant le pied dans l'étrier, jamais je ne rougirai mes éperons de ton ſang.—Je pouvois lui tenir parole: j'avois oublié de les prendre."

The following verſes are tranſcribed from the author's charming piece entitled *Iles Borromées.*

" Dieux puiſſans, qui veillez ſur ces charmans rivages,
Loin de deux vrais amis écartez les dangers,
Faites taire les vents, enchaînez les orages,
Que l'onde ſoit tranquille et le ciel ſans nuages!
Et vous amans des fleurs, venez zéphirs légers,
Guidez-nous au travers de ces liquides plaines;
Venez, je m'abandonne à vos douces haleines.
Nous partons, et le ciel, et l'onde et les zéphirs,
Tout ſemble s'accorder au gré de nos déſirs.
Nos rameurs, à l'envi, ſignalent leur adreſſe.
Sur l'humide élément qu'il fend avec vîteſſe,
A peine le canot trace un foible ſillon;
Et déjà *Laveno* ſe perd dans l'horizon.
Nous voguons entourés des ſcènes les plus belles;
Chaque inſtant à nos yeux en offre de nouvelles.
L'horizon, ce tableau des volages humeurs
D'un ſexe né pour plaire et pour changer ſans ceſſe,
Nous charme en variant ſes aſpects enchanteurs:
Il fuit et ſe rapproche; il s'élève et s'abaiſſe." *Ibid.*

ART.

ART. 41. *Monumens antiques inédits ou nouvellement expliqués. Collection de ſtatues, bas-reliefs, buſtes, peintures, moſaïques, gravures, vaſes, inſcriptions, médailles et inſtrumens tirés des collections nationales et particulières, et accompagnés d'un texte explicatif; par* A. L. Millin, *conſervateur des antiques, médailles et pierres gravées de la Bibliothéque nationale de France, &c. Tome I, 1ère livraiſon*, 68 pp. in 4to. with Nine Plates. Paris; as alſo Evans, Pall-Mall, and De Boffe, Gerard-Street, London. Every volume of this work, printed by the younger *Didot*, will be compoſed of at leaſt fifty ſheets of text, with not leſs than 40 plates, and diſtributed in *ſix* livraiſons, the price of each of which will be 6 fr. 60 cent.

This collection of inedited monuments is intended as a ſequel to thoſe of *Caylus**, and of *Guattani*†, which are of the ſame form, and contain a great number of monuments, of which literary men and artiſts have availed themſelves in the explanation of a number of facts relative to the hiſtory of arts and of antiquity.

France abounds with intereſting monuments, and many of them are abſolutely unknown. Thoſe which belong to individuals are liable to be diſperſed; of theſe, therefore, Mr. *Millin* has been more particularly careful to give repreſentations and deſcriptions. In his explanations, he has likewiſe been more full than he ſhould have been, if this work had only been deſigned for the uſe of profeſſed antiquaries; but he was deſirous that it ſhould be read and underſtood by other literary men, and by artiſts, which has led him to explain in the notes claſſical paſſages, and terms of leſs common uſe. He has alſo taken advantage of the opportunities which have been afforded him, to treat certain queſtions which had not been, in his judgment, ſufficiently diſcuſſed; or, at leaſt, not in the French language.

Archæology, or the ſcience of Antiquities, is divided into three branches: *Numiſmatics*, or the ſcience of Medals; *Palæography*, or that of Inſcriptions; and what is here called *l'antiquité figurée*, or the knowledge of the Monuments which appertain principally to the art of deſign. There will be found in this collection monuments belonging to each of theſe branches.

This firſt *livraiſon* contains, in ſeven diſſertations, the explanation of different monuments, repreſented on nine plates.

Mr. *Michaux*, an eminent botaniſt, on his return from Perſia, had brought with him a circular piece of marble, covered on both ſides with an inſcription in Perſepolitan characters, above which were ſeen different figures of animals and others, which had undoubtedly a relation to the contents of the inſcription. This extremely curious monument, differing from all the Perſepolitan monuments hitherto publiſhed, is at preſent depoſited in the Cabinet of Antiquities of the

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* Recueil d'antiquités Egyptiennes, Grecques et Romaines; Paris, 1756, &c. 7 vol. in 4to.

† Monumenti antichi inediti. Rome, 1784-89, 6 vol. in 4to.

National

National Library. Mr. *Millin* had ſent ſome time ago caſts in plaſter of Paris, or drawings of it, to the ſeveral literati who are employed in the explanation of Perſepolitan inſcriptions; to MM. *Münter, Herder, Ouſeley, Hager, Henley,* and *Silveſtre de Sacy*; he has inſerted in this number an engraving of this monument, for the purpoſe of making it more publicly known. In the ſeventh Diſſertation, Mr. *M.* having firſt given an account of the reſult of the labours of thoſe who have been engaged in the ſtudy of the antiquities of Perſepolis, endeavours to aſcertain, as far as is poſſible, the particular animals repreſented on this marble, comparing them with thoſe which are found on other monuments; makes ſome remarks on the pyramidal ſign, which forms the baſis of the Perſepolitan alphabet, placed on an altar, and concludes with obſervations on the nature of the characters, and their poſition in the inſcription. *Magas. Encyclopéd.*

ART. 42. *Voyage pittoreſque et hiſtorique de l'Iſtrie et de la Dalmatie; par le C.* Caſſas. xiiie *et* xive *livraiſon.*

In the firſt of theſe *livraiſons*, the 13th, are ſix plates, executed in a ſuperior manner. The 14th *livraiſon* terminates the diſcourſe, containing the deſcriptive part of the work: it begins with p. 65, and finiſhes with p. 157. Of the entire work, conſiſting of 69 plates and the hiſtorical diſcourſe, the price is, on ordinary paper, 250 fr. and, on vellum paper, 450 fr. *Ibid.*

ART. 43. *Voyage pittoreſque de la Syrie, &c. par le C.* Caſſas, xxi *livraiſon.*

The ſix plates, of which this *livraiſon* is compoſed, repreſent:

1. *Antioch, called by the Arabs* Anthâkyeh. The view is taken from the iron-gate (Bâb-el-Hhadyd) which leads to Aleppo, by the mountains.

2. *The Cénotaph of Caius Cæſar.*

3. *A general view of the great colonnade, and of the ruins of Palmyra.* This plate is three times as large as the ordinary plates of the work.

4. *The Mauſoléum of Iamblichus.*

5. *Plan of a Tomb cut in the rock;* ſituated near the town of Seide, formerly called *Sidon.*

6. *The general plan of the city of Alexandria, called by the Arabs* Eſkandéryéh. *Ibid.*

ART. 44. *Voyage au Sénégal, pendant les années* 1784 *et* 1785, *d'après les mémoires de* Lajaille, *ancien officier de la marine Françaiſe, contenant des recherches ſur la géographie, la navigation et le commerce de la côte occidentale d'Afrique, depuis le Cap-Blanc juſqu'à la rivière de Serra-Leone, avec des notes ſur la ſituation de cette partie de l'Afrique, juſqu'en l'an* 10 (1801 and 1802); *par* P. Labarthe; *orné d'une très-belle carte gravée par* P. F. Tardieu. Pr. 4 fr. Paris.

This voyage to Senegal preſents inſtructive details on the eſtabliſhments ſituated along the coaſt, from Cape Blanc to the river of Sierra-Leone,

Leone, in the interior; with nautical remarks after *Lajaille*, a diſtinguiſhed old officer, commiſſioned by government in 1784 and 1785, to viſit this part of the coaſt of Africa. There are likewiſe inſerted in this work ſome inedited obſervations of *Buffon*, on the minerals and vegetables which might be expected to be found in the interior of Africa. Theſe obſervations had been addreſſed to the Miniſter of the Marine, on the occaſion of a project which Baron *Einſiedel*, Counſellor of the Mines of Saxony, had formed, to traverſe Africa through Senegal, the kingdoms of Tombut, Agades; to terminate in Nubia, come down the Nile, and return through Egypt. *Buffon* was much pleaſed with this project, which, if it had been executed, would have greatly advanced our knowledge of this part of the globe. The author makes mention of a journey to Galam by land, performed by *Rubault*, in 1786, after the inſtructions of *Durand*, then Director of the Company of Senegal.

The chart which accompanies the voyage to Senegal, does honour to the talents of MM. *Lapie* and *Tardieu*, the two artiſts employed in it. *Lajaille* had found all the latitudes in the chart of *Bellin* falſe, from the iſles of Idols to Cape Tagrin, incluſively.

Upon the whole, we may pronounce this work to be exceedingly intereſting to navigation and to commerce. *Ibid.*

ART. 45. *Voyage en Italie de M. l'Abbé* Barthélémy, *de l'Académie françaiſe, de celle des inſcriptions et belles-lettres, et auteur du* Voyage d'Anacharſis, *imprimé ſur les lettres originales écrites au comte* de Caylus; *avec un appendice ou ſe trouvent des morceaux inédits de* Winckelmann, *du P.* Jacquier, *de l'abbé* Zarillo, *académicien d'Herculanum et antiquaire du roi de Naples, et d'autres ſavans; publié par* A. Seryes, *bibliothecaire du Prytanée, et communiqué, pendant l'impreſſion, au ſenateur neveu de cet académicien, et au directeur de la monnoye des médailles, ſon compagnon de voyage en Italie.* Paris, An x. (1801.) 8vo. of 432 pp.

Since the death of *Barthélémy*, great pains have been taken to collect whatever had been left unpubliſhed by this celebrated antiquary; and two volumes only of ſuch miſcellanies were printed at Paris; nor, indeed, was any thing more expected. The literary world therefore will be agreeably ſurpriſed by the publication of theſe heretofore inedited Letters, written from *Italy* to the Comte *de Caylus*, who has contributed perhaps more than any other perſon to the progreſs of the ſcience of antiquities, by directing it to the ſtudy of the fine arts.

This *Voyage* was undertaken by order, and at the expence, of government, for the purpoſe of procuring ſuch medals as were wanting in the Royal Cabinet, and of completing the different ſeries. The Letters are in number forty-nine; in all which the author ſhows the greateſt eagerneſs to ſee every thing, to inform himſelf of every thing, and more particularly to make new acquiſitions. He expreſſes himſelf in the following manner on the ſubject of Baron *de Stoſch*.

" Nous avons fouillé auſſi dans le cabinet du Baron *de Stoſch*. Je lui ai remis vos ſoufres, qu'il a reçus avec plaiſir, et votre livre qu'il a lu avec autant d'avidité que de ſatisfaction; ſon cabinet eſt immenſe;

vingt-

vingt-cinq mille ſoufres, des eſtampes, des pierres gravées, des antiques, des médailles, des manuſcrits, des cartes de géographie, des deſſins. Il a dépouillé l'Italie, et la tient encore aſſervie par ſes correſpondans; il m'a tout montré, et ne m'a rien cédé. Je me ſuis abaiſſé juſqu'aux prières; elles ont endurci un cœur, qui naturellement n'eſt pas tendre. J'ai triomphé de la réſiſtance féroce de l'abbé *Boule*, et de quelques autres brocanteurs.

" Je ne triomphe pas du plus puiſſant de tous."

" J'en ſuis déſolé, ſans en être abattu. Je viens d'ourdir des trames dont il ſera entouré pendant mon abſence, et j'aurai peut-être le double plaiſir d'avoir ce que je déſire, et de l'avoir malgré lui."

Of the Abbé *Gori*, Mr. *B.* ſpeaks at the ſame time in a lively and affecting manner.

" Gori eſt le meilleur homme du monde, ſans paſſion, ſans jalouſie et ſans argent; reſpectable par ſes mœurs et ſes travaux; univerſellement reſpecté des étrangers et de ſes compatriotes; cherchant des conjectures et en trouvant beaucoup, des protecteurs et n'en trouvant point."

M. *Mazzochi*, Father *Corſini*, Father *Paciandi*, Father *Jacquier*, the intelligent *Fauchet*, *Dubuiſſon*, *Guyard*, are likewiſe objects of this author's ſolicitude, and are very well deſcribed by him. Of a certain Abbé *Boule*, an inhabitant of Marſeille, he gives the following account:

" Cet homme a beaucoup de morceaux d'antiquités; mais il eſt impoſſible de les voir. J'en ai apperçu quelques-uns par terre: c'étoient des figures égyptiennes aſſez bien conſervées. Il a de plus le cabinet de M. Gravier dans des caiſſes où chaque pièce ſe trouve empaquetée. Il eſt inutile de lui faire la moindre propoſition pour les acquérir: il ſeroit plus aiſé de lui arracher la vie, et c'eſt ce que ſera bientôt ſa léſinerie et la ſoif inſatiable qu'il a de poſſéder."

On his firſt arrival at Rome, this author obſerves:

" J'ai paſſé deux heures au Capitole, et je n'ai rien vu. L'amas énorme de ſtatues, de buſtes, d'inſcriptions et de bas-reliefs réunis dans ce palais, épuiſe l'admiration. N'eſpérons plus former de pareilles collections; nous vivons dans un pays de fer pour les antiquaires: c'eſt en Italie qu'il faudroit faire des recherches. Je rougis mille fois par jour de ces infiniment petits monumens qui ſont dans notre infiniment petit cabinet des antiques; je rougis de l'avoir montré aux étrangers: qu'auront-ils penſé de l'intérêt que je prenois à tous ces bronzes de ſept à huit pouces de hauteur, à ces deux ou trois têtes mutilées, dont je voulois leur faire admirer la grandeur et la rareté? Pourquoi n'ai-je pas été averti?

" On trouve ici l'ancienne Egypte, l'ancienne Athènes, l'ancienne Rome.

" Sérieuſement la tête m'en tourne, et j'ignore quel temps il faudra pour voir tout ce Capitole, et puis tout ce coliſée, et puis tous ces arcs, et puis tous ces aqueducs, et puis tout ce Saint-Pierre, et puis tous les cabinets particuliers.

" Il

" Il faut l'avouer encore une fois, ce n'eſt qu'ici que ſe trouvent des carrières inépuiſables d'antiquités; et relativement aux étrangers, on devroit écrire ſur la porte *del Popolo*, cette bèlle inſcription du Dante :

" LASCIATE OGNI SPERANZA VOI CH'ENTRATE."

The following may be given as a ſpecimen of the *molle atque facetum* of *Horace*, which Mr. *B.* poſſeſſed in ſo eminent a degree.

" Tout ce que je puis vous dire ſur mon retour, c'eſt que je voudrois être à Paris ſans avoir la peine d'y aller. Je comptois voir un conclave; mais on n'entend plus rien à la maladie du pape. Il eſt ſi bien, il eſt ſi mal, qu'il ne faudroit point être ſurpris d'apprendre ſa mort dans quelques jours, ou de le voir vivre encore quelques années. Il reçut tous ſes ſacremens la ſemaine dernière, et l'on prépara tout pour les funérailles et pour le conclave. Le lendemain, il étoit mieux, et l'on prépara les théâtres pour le carnaval. Lundi, il y eut de la fièvre, on continua à travailler au conclave; hier, la fièvre ceſſa, on fit une répétition de l'opéra; aujourd'hui, les nouvelles étant incertaines, on travaille à la fois pour ces deux genres de ſpectacles."

To theſe Letters the editor has added an Appendix, containing eleven pieces which relate to them; ſome of which had not before been publiſhed. *Ibid.* and *Eſpr. d. Journ.*

ITALY.

ART. 46. *Topografia fiſica della Campania*, &c. 2 Vols. in 8vo. Naples.

The author of this Topography, who has paſſed a conſiderable time at Naples and in the environs, has been conſtantly occupied in examining the phyſical conſtitution of that country. When he publiſhed his work, it was regarded as the moſt important on that ſubject, and indeed greatly ſurpaſſing any other which had preceded it, relative to that country. It was he who firſt determined the true limits of the ancient *Campi Phlegræi*, and who pointed out the different craters that are found there, of which five or ſix only were before known. He was the firſt that viſited the great extinguiſhed volcano, of which the ſucceſſive eruptions have formed the Northern part of Campania. The work therefore preſents, at the ſame time, an accurate topography, and a volcanic mineralogy, of Campania. It is accompanied with ſix charts, or plates.

GERMANY.

ART. 47. *Chriſtliche Kirchengeſchichte von* Johann Matthias Schröckn, *&c.—Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory, by* J. M. Schröckn. *Vols.* 30—33. I. 8vo. Leipzig, 1800–1801.

The 30*th volume* of this very valuable work, takes in the civil and literary hiſtory of this period from 1303 to 1517, which proceeds to p. 491; and the *three others* are entirely dedicated to the hiſtory of the Popes, from Boniface VIII. to Leo X. incluſive. *Jena ALZ.*

ACKNOW-

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We take this opportunity to inform *Mr. E. Spencer, of Wells*, that his Letter to us was laid by laſt month, for the plain reaſon that we had not time to read it, and for no other. We have ſince read it; and are by no means convinced, that going to a meeting of *Diſſenters* or *Independents*, ſuch as Mr. Jay's, can be any proof of *Methodiſm*. We have enquired further into the truth, and find that Mr. Jay is not a layman (unleſs Dr. Leland, Dr. Doddridge, Dr. Lardner, &c. could be called ſo) being in the Orders of his Church. He was, and we believe is, occaſionally attended, by perſons of very various deſcriptions, not for any peculiarity of doctrine, but ſingular eloquence as a preacher. A proof of going to Lady Huntingdon's Chapel would have been ſomething in point; but this is not pretended. Is it wonderful then that we do not believe one thing to be a demonſtration of another; the going to hear a Preſbyterian Preacher, a proof of Methodiſm? Even the communicating with the former people * would prove nothing reſpecting the latter. For our definition of Methodiſm, we beg leave to refer to our Review for Auguſt laſt, p. 217. Under that deſcription, we are convinced, and we think we know, that Mrs. More is not a Methodiſt. If ſhe were ſo, her hypocriſy and cunning muſt be beyond all parallel; and for that reaſon ſhe would deſerve to be given up by every honeſt man. But, if ſhe were ſo cunning, ſhe would never have confeſſed to *Mr. Jay*, what is alledged in *Mr. Spencer's* Letter. The Wedmore Schoolmaſter (Harvard) proved to be a Methodiſt (we underſtand) and was diſmiſſed by Mrs. M. for that reaſon. Whether we are favourers of their tenets, will be beſt ſeen when we have occaſion to conſider them more at large. See to this point, the Preface to vol. xviii. p. v. and pp. 319, 429, 550, of that volume. *Mr. Spencer's* counter-advertiſements, we think, make rather againſt him than for him; and ſome of his aſſertions are refuted by dates.

As we believe the public to be completely tired of this diſpute, we ſhall be very conciſe in our future notice of the tracts relating to it. Were Mr. Bere, what he is artfully and falſely repreſented, a poor Curate, we ſhould applaud the ſpirit of ſome of his defenders, though we could not allow the juſtice of his

* We cannot go into this point; but we underſtand the charge to be next to nothing.

cauſe,

cauſe, or approve his own writings; but, though he is Curate of Blagdon, he is alſo Rector of Butcombe, and a Magiſtrate for the County: and a very lucrative Curacy, added to a Rectory, cannot, we think, render the man an object of compaſſion, nor diminiſh the influence of the Magiſtrate.

Mr. J. Cooke may depend upon our impartiality, and may be perfectly aſſured, that we can have no private views to bias our opinion.

Our correſpondent, *M.* of Perth, has favoured us with another letter. On a further conſideration of the former, we are inclined only to offer our commendations of his intentions, and to decline entering further into the diſcuſſion.

We ſhould be very glad if we could obtain for our *Conſtant Reader*, who ſpeaks ſo kindly of us, the ſatisfaction he wiſhes. It is very certain, that the colour of printing-ink is, in many modern books, very faulty. We rather fear, that the proper care to prevent this is ſeldom taken, but with books of ſome expence, in what is technically called *extra-printing*.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

A new edition of the *Engliſh Eſſayiſts* will ſoon appear, in forty-five volumes, royal 18mo. It is to contain the Tatler, Spectator, Guardian, Rambler, Idler, World, Adventurer, Connoiſſeur, Mirror, Lounger, and Obſerver; with biographical Prefaces to all thoſe of which the authors are not living; and a General Index in the laſt volume. *Mr. A. Chalmers* is ſaid to be the writer of the Prefaces, and the collator of the works.

Propoſals have been circulated for a new Abridgment of the *Philoſophical Tranſactions*, to the preſent time. We hope the work is undertaken with the conſent and concurrence of the *Royal Society*.

ERRATA.

Page 450, line 3, for *his* read *their*.
452, — 38, — *immerſion* read *emerſion*.
513, — 20, — *with ſome* read *in the ſame*.
516, — 23, — *ſect* read *ſeat*.
522, — 31, — RESPECT read REPORT.

AN

INDEX

TO THE

REMARKABLE PASSAGES

IN THE

CRITICISMS and EXTRACTS in VOLUME XIX.

A. PAGE

ABORTUS..... 600
Africa, Jews diſperſed even in the heart of 495
——— winds prevalent on the weſt coaſt of 543
Albert, duke of Auſtria, character of 119
Alfred, king, his palace at Chippenham..... 677
Antediluvian mountains 345
Antiquities, method of writing on, cenſured..... 218
Arches, on ancient 254
Archimedes firſt demonſtrated the properties of the lever..... 485
——— his demonſtration completed by Mr. Vince..... ib.
Atonement, on the doctrine of... 504
Avarice, warning againſt..... 87

B.

Baczko, Mr. voyage of..... 438
Bagpipe originally a Roman inſtrument of muſic..... 108
Baillie, tribute to Miſs Joanna ... 415
Ballads, romantic 575
Baptiſm, origin and performance of..... 77
——— objected to by Mr. Frend 78
Barrington, biſhop, remark of, on faith and works 59
Beale-caſtle, deſcription of 19
Bellanger, madame, Macpherſon's tale of 451
Bells, on the ringing of, at funerals 372

PAGE

Bible, diviſion of the verſes in the 442
——— improvements in Mr. Reeves's verſion of the....442, 447
——— Mr. Reeves's diviſion of the, into ſections 443, 447
——— concordance to the latin, made by cardinal Hugo 445
——— diviſion of the, into chapters 446
Billings, commodore, travels of.. 554
Biography, remarks on 588
Biſhops, primitive diſtinction of 79
——— ſucceſſion of, from the Apoſtles 80
Blagdon controverſy further canvaſſed.....90, 439, 663
Blair, Dr. Hugh, account of the life of..... 46
Blenheim houſe and gardens deſcribed, in French verſe 323
Botany, additions to our native.. 639
Boucher's gloſſary recommended 222
Bread, remarks on the aſſize of.. 359
Briſtol waters, character of the 602
Bull-baiting, ſingular anecdote of 548
Burke, Mr. wrongly cenſured by Mounier..... 513

C.

Cæſarean operation, caution againſt the..... 85
Camphor, efficacy of, in caſes of convulſions 113
Cannon balls, experiments on the motion of 487
Canonbury, poetical account of.. 414
Carew, ſpecimen of the poetry of 621

Catalepſy

INDEX.

PAGE

Catalepsy. Historia feminæ cataleptic æ..... 604
Cataract in the eye, operation for removing the..... 308
Century, nineteenth, six lines on the 645
Champion, Anthony, account of 187
Charles I. false assertion of Mounier concerning..... 521
——— remarks on his conduct towards the Scots..... 604
Charles II. character of 607
Children, mortality of, born in or near the metropolis, attributed to dropsy in the brain 310
China, establishment of Christianity in, proposed 546
Chippenham, account of..... 577
——— king Alfred's palace at ib.
——— bridge 578
——— church and epitaphs at 579
Church estates, proposition for the management of the, considered 466
——— yards, custom of planting evergreens in the, of North Wales 132
Classics, mischief ascribed to reading the, chimerical..... 654
Clergy, residence of the.....425, 426
——— vindicated in regard to tithes 457
——— moderation of the, in exacting their dues 458, 462
——— cultivation of their lands by themselves..... 464
Cobbett, Mr. animadversions on the conduct of 632
Cockfighting, singular anecdotes of 370
Cold, artificial, production of.... 492
——— experiments on .. 493
Comfort, a word not known in the French language 313
Commandment, on the tenth..... 230
Commerce, lines addressed to.... 82
——— of Great Britain, flourishing state of the.....227, 585
Commissary, observations on the duties of the..... 613
Consumptions, new mode of treating, by Dr. Beddoes 192
Contraband. Prohibited articles of trade, usually mentioned in European treaties 73
———, remarks on..... 70
Convulsions, puerperal 112
——— efficacy of camphor in 113
Copper. Herland copper-mine, in Cornwall, described..... 564
——— Huel Gorland mine.... 566
———, description of the arseniates of, and iron..... ib.

PAGE

Copper. Description of the arseniates 567
——— Process for the analysis of those minerals ..... ib.
——— Arseniates of iron 568
——— Red octaedral copper ore 569
Corn, produce of, in standard wheaten flour..... 359
Correspondence 215, 328, 439, 542, 603
Cottage architecture..... 412
Coucy, Ingelram de, character of 120
Cow-houses, new plan for constructing 127
Created, on the expression 284
Creation, on the days of 290
Cutaneous diseases 409
———. Lepra Græcorum characterized 410
——— Psoriasis.... ib.
——— Ichyosis.... 411

D.

Delirium of little importance in a scarlet fever 600
Deluge, retirement of the waters of the 345
Derwent, river, origin and course of the 334
Dioptrical propositions, Dr. Young's 489
Dissipation, consequences of a life of, considered..... 44
Divisibility in regard to matter explained 484
Dropsy in the brain, fatal to children in and near the metropolis 310
Dummond of Hawthornden, sonnet ascribed to 620
Dupuis, work of, on the origin of all religions, the *ne plus ultra* of infidelity..... 246
———. Hypothesis reprehended 404
Durham cathedral, when built... 330
——— singular custom there at Easter..... 331
——— chapel of the nine altars in ..... ib.

E.

Earth, age of the 404
Education, difference in the system of, adopted by Mrs. More and Miss Hamilton..... 232
Egypt. Description of the landing at Aboukir under general Abercromby 156
El, remarks on the divine name.. 152
Elephant's tusk, in which an iron spear-head was imbedded..... 565
Elizabeth, remarks on poetical history of the reign of..... 615
——— poetry of 616

INDEX.

PAGE

Eloah and Elohim, on the etymology and import of the names 137
England, on the financial ſtate of 269
——— ſports and paſtimes of 366, 368
Engliſh language, great revolution it underwent in the two centuries which followed the Conqueſt 220
———. Proceſs by which the Saxon was Normanized ..... ib.
Engliſh ſtyle, advances of the 224
Epigram, Latin, de baculo Pampineo 644
Eſſex, agriculture of 460
Excommunication conſidered 79
Eye, on inflammations in the 364
——. Lens, human chryſtalline, refractive power of the 490

F.

Faber's Horæ Moſaicæ, plan of .. 383
Fable, French, from Mad. Genlis 436
Fairfax, MSS. of, unpubliſhed 618
Faith and works, biſhop Barrington's remarks on 59
Farmers, great, gainers by an increaſed poor-rate 455
Fear, ode to 644
Fevers, on debility in 263
——— treatment of 264
——— ſcarlet, on delirium in the 600
——— yellow, obſervations on .. 114
Finances, on the ſtate of the public 269
——— public view of, from Mr. Morgan's work 374, 580
Fire, effects produced on bodies by 475
Fiſhing, method of, at Ochotſk in Ruſſia 555
——— ſports in North Wales 132
Fluids, elaſtic aeriform 471
——————— formation of 470
Fluxions, principles of, oppoſed by Dr. Berkeley 394
Folly as it Flies, inconſiſtency of the comedy of 537
France, object of, in attacking England 225
——— gains that accrued to, by former treaties 226
——— revolution in, Mounier's opinion concerning the 514
——— perſecution of the clergy of 517
——— revolution in, neceſſary .. 518
——————— boaſted of, by its authors, as the effects of philoſophy 521
——————— antidote to, may be extracted from the writings of the revolutioniſts 544

PAGE

France, minor revolutions in 544
——— old floating debt of. 585
——— veteran forces of, not ſuperior to thoſe of England 637
——— intereſting monuments of antiquity in 658
Fund, free, obſervations on the .. 581
——— ſinking, riſe of the 582

G.

Geddes, Dr. his method of ſettling the faith of Chriſtians 3
——————— repreſents the Pentateuch as partly fabulous ..... ib.
——————— ſpecimens of his Latin poetry 5
——————— reflections on the death of 283
——————— detached notes upon the critical remarks of 343, 623
——————— compariſons and obſervations of, little ſhort of blaſphemy 529, 624, 627
Geneſis, general view of the three firſt chapters of 6
Glouceſter, Robert of, rhyming chronicle of, the earlieſt Normanized Saxon work 221
Gothic architecture, invented in England 330
Gout, obſervations on the 601
Greek and Latin authors, on comparing 280

H.

Hall, biſhop, a ſatire from 619
Hampſtead, account of the medicinal waters at 541
Handel, feſtival of muſic in honour of 391
Harveſt home, obſervations on ... 373
Hearing, reſemblance of, to ſight 489
Heat, on the tranſmiſſion of inviſible terreſtrial 36
——— on ſcattering of ſolar 37
——— and light, whether occaſioned by the ſame or different rays 38
Heberden, Dr. account of 598
Hebrews, ſymbols, &c. of the, referred to aſtronomy 404
Helvetic confederacy, the, acknowledged by the houſe of Auſtria 122
Herbert, earl of Pembroke, ſonnet aſcribed to 619
Horland copper-mine, in Cornwall, deſcribed 564
Hey, Mr. miſrepreſentations of, and inveteracy againſt, our eccleſiaſtical eſtabliſhment 318
Hindoo and Moſaic laws and cuſtoms, by whom compared 242

Hindoo.

INDEX.

PAGE

Hindoo. On the general features of reſemblance in the idolatrous rites of the nations of Aſia.... 242
———, diet, auſterities, and ſuperſtition of the 245
———, their extreme veneration of the cow..... ib.
Hindoſtan, women regarded by the code of, in an inferior point of view 244
Holland, nature of the ſtadholderate..... 633
Holloway, near Bath, deſcription of..... 176
Holy ſpirit, agency of the, at the creation 286
Horſes, caſes of diſeaſed 541
Horſley's, biſhop, tranſlation of Hoſea, compared with archbiſhop Newcome's and the eſtabliſhed verſions..... 171
——— ſcrupuloſity of, in his emendations of the text 175
Hoſea, biſhop Horſley's tranſlation of 171
——— compared with archbiſhop Newcome's and the eſtabliſhed verſions ..... ib.
Howlett, Mr. reaſons of, for impartiality in regard to tithes .. 455
Hyder Aly, hiſtory of 100
Hymn to the ſun 69

I. and J.

Ideas, view of what is called the aſſociation of 234
Jehovah and Jah, on the divine names of 153, 354
Jeruſalem, march of Titus to, deſcribed 110
Jeſuits, too much miſchief attributed by Barruel to the ſuppreſſion of the 513
Jewiſh ſcribes, propenſity of the, to eject the letter vau 135
Jews, prejudices of the, in regard to the advent of the Meſſiah .. 387
—— wretchedneſs and degradation of the 495
—— diſperſed even in the heart of Africa..... ib.
—— have no accurate deduction of their deſcent ..... ib.
Incloſures, obſtacles to general .. 165
——— Mr. Marſhall's ſpeculative remarks on 166
Income tax..... 375
Infidelity, Dupuis' work the *ne plus ultra* of 246
Infanity, applications of cold water in caſes of, ſucceſsful 115

PAGE

Inſcription, curious, in Perſepolitan characters..... 658
Johnie of Breadiſlee, Scottiſh ballad of..... 573
Ireland, Mucruſs lake deſcribed 20
——— Catholic clergy of, vindicated by Mr. O'Leary..... 316
——— lines on the union with 534
Iriſh ballads, old 612
Iſraelites, on the time of their ſojourning in Egypt..... 527
——— how directed by the pillar of glory 529
Juvenal, tranſlators of, ſhamefully treated by Mr. Rhodes..... 50

K.

Kenſington-gardens deſcribed in French verſe 324

L.

Lamb, monſtrous 561
Langſlow, Dr. diſpute of, with Mr. Crowfoot 421
Latin and Greek authors, on the comparing of 280
Latin, limited knowledge of, no impediment to the acquiſition of a good Engliſh ſtyle..... 449
Lawes, proof of the poetical talents of 261
Lemming rat, migrations of the, deſcribed 296
Lever, properties of the 485
——— demonſtration of Archimedes concerning the, completed by Mr. Vince ..... ib.
Light and heat, whether occaſioned by the ſame or different rays 38
Literary fund, ſociety for eſtabliſhing a 428
Literary intelligence 104, 216, 328, 440, 542, 664
Lizards by no means poiſonous .. 300
———, diviſions of the genus of ib.
Lochlin, drama of the Maid of .. 478
——————— ode from 479
——————— ſpeeches from the 480
Love, perpetual recurrence of, in the poetry of Elizabeth's time 616
Lovelace, ſpecimen of the poetry of 621
——— plays of, in MS. 622
Lucan, verſes of, concerning the ſerpent, tranſlated by Dr. Shaw 301
Luton, in Bedfordſhire, deſcription of 266

M.

Macpherſon, Charles, romantic memoirs of 448
Magnetiſm, animal, conciſe hiſtory of 420

INDEX.

PAGE

Magnetiſm introduced in England 421
Maleſherbes, memorable ſpeech of, to Mr. Edgeworth, after the murder of Louis XVI. 520
Man, hiſtory of the fall of, given up by Dr. Prieſtley 407
Market Night, a poem on 341
Martinico, artfully worded aſſertion relative to 634
Mary Stuart, ſcene from the drama of 190
Materialiſts, given the lie to by the narrative of Moſes..... 288
Mechanics, importance of the ſcience of 483
Meteorological journal for 1800, reſult of the 569
Methodiſm, remarks on 663
Milton, treatiſes of, on divorce... 258
——— favourite reading of 260
Miniſters, exhortation to..... 61
Minſtrels, ancient, principally of the *north countrie* 570
Mole, river, origin and courſe of 336
More, Mrs. character of..... 93
Moſaic and Hindoo laws and cuſtoms compared 241
——— hiſtory defended, againſt Dr. Geddes 290
——— records, how attacked ... 383
——— compariſon of pagan mythologies with 385
Motion, on the laws of 484
Mounier, on the character of 512, 523
——— his defence of the modern philoſophers..... 514
——— apologizes for the writings of Voltaire 517
Mountains, antediluvian 345
Mucroſs lake deſcribed 20
Muſic, attempts at a dictionary of 178
——— curious articles concerning, from Rouſſeau 180
——— moſt important terms in 183

N.

Nadir Shah conquers India 99
Nanke, Mr. travels of, along the coaſts of the Baltic 437
Nations, empreſs of Ruſſia's demand, as one of the rights of.. 66
Necker, conduct of, examined.... 522
Nerves, irritability of the..... 488
Neutral powers, on the 71
——— commerce in proviſions, ſometimes contraband 73
Neutrality, conſiderations on 70
Newcaſtle, improvements at 335
North countrie, ancient minſtrels principally of the..... 570

PAGE

O.

Ode, addreſſed by Mr. Penn to Stephen Colonna 17
—— on the return of peace 339
Ordination ſervice, beſt illuſtrations of the..... 61
Oſſian's poems, Mr. Laing's remarks on 609
Oxygenation, table of 478

P.

Pagan and ſacred hiſtories, coincidence of 384
Patriotiſm, remarkable inſtance of heroic..... 121
Paul, emperor of Ruſſia, well-known challenge of 430
Peace of 1802, a beneficial one.. 202
—— articles of, not diſhonourable 225
—— ode on the return of 339
—— lines on the 416
—— on the..... 632
Perſpective, Mr Malton's obſervations on 531
Peterſburg, grandeur of 496
——— domeſtic manners of.. 497
——— extravagance and luxury in ..... ib.
——— domeſtic education neglected in..... 498
Pevenſey caſtle, a Roman fortreſs 108
——— its hiſtory..... 109
Philoſophers and philoſophiſts, diſtinction between 515
——— labours of the modern 514, 516, 519
Phthiſis pulmonalis 86
Plague, various means uſed at Moſcow in 1771, for checking the 539
Platina, M. Briſſon's account of.. 474
Pleaſure, conſequence of a life of 44
Pliny, whimſical taſte of, in an entertainment 254
Plural forms of expreſſion in the Hebrew, not the mere caprice of language..... 135
Πνεῦμα, Ariſtotle's explanation of 287
Poetry, Engliſh, the changes of literary fancy concerning 217
——— ſtate of, under queen Elizabeth 615
——— ſpecimens of old 616
Politian, character of..... 401
——— tranſlation from the Latin of, on the exile and death of Ovid ..... ib.
Polytheiſm, as ſtated by Dr. Geddes 136

Pomfret

INDEX.

PAGE

Pomfret the poet, ſhort account of 268
Pope, garden of, at Twickenham, deſcribed in French verſe 325
Power, balance of, conſidered ... 227
Prayer, exhortation on..... 230
Preſbyterians, Scotch, condition of the, under the adminiſtration of Lauderdale..... 606
Prieſtley, Dr. attacks of, on Chriſtianity 407
——— diſbelieves there is ſuch a perſon as the devil 408
——— poſitions of, controverted 502
Primroſe, the, from Carew's poetry 621
Providence, divine, reflections on 185
Pruſſia, New Eaſtern, deſcribed 213

Q.

Quadrupeds, ſynopſis of the orders of, as deſcribed in Dr. Shaw's general zoology..... 298
Quarles, ſpecimen of the poetry of 620

R.

Raleigh, ſir Walter..... 617
Rat, black, method of driving the, from its haunts 295
—— Lemming, migration of the, deſcribed..... 296
Rein deer, Tungooſe method of travelling on a 556
Religion, revealed, ſceptical objections againſt 27
——— evidence of .. 31
——— how notions of, are to be inculcated in tender minds 236
——— eſtabliſhed, Mr. Belſham's violent expreſſions againſt, examined 510
——— Dupuis's work on the origin of religion, the *ne plus ultra* of infidelity 246
Revelation, not derogatory to the dignity of God 27
Rhinoceros, account of a male .. 563
Robertſon, Dr. William, memoirs of 589
——— character of 596
Roman walls, on the conſtruction of 106
——— antiquity found at Richborough, deſcribed 107
——— caſtra, ſingular remarks on 109
——— arches 254
Romans, compariſon of the camps of the, with thoſe of the Iſraelites 249
——— remains of the, in this country 252

PAGE

Romans, reflections on their efforts in Britain 256
Rome, the capitol at..... 661
Ruſſia, convention with, conſidered 62
——— pernicious demand of the neutral powers defeated 65
——— challenge of Paul, emperor of 430
——— City of Ochotſk deſcribed 555
——— method of fiſhing at .... ib.
——— cows at, fed on the offal of fiſh ..... ib.
——— Harbour of Ochotſk deſcribed 556
——— Tungooſe method of travelling on a rein-deer ..... ib.
——— Deſcription of the Tungooſe 557
——— ceremonies of the Yakuti in the north of 559

S.

Sabbath, on the diſpoſal of the.... 229
Sacrament, addreſs to thoſe who neglect the 231
Sacrifices, divine inſtitution of, conſidered 507
Samaritan text of the ſcriptures, on the 2
Sauer, Mr. track of, in his travels 554
Saxon language, how Normanized..... 228
Schools, charity, principal objects of our anceſtors in founding .. 23
——— Mrs. Trimmer's publications adapted to..... 24
——— Sunday, hints concerning ib.
——— advantages of .... ib.
Scotland, confidence of the people of, in their pariſh miniſters.... 128
——— remarks on the union of, with England 606
Scottiſh border-poetry, account of the 571
——— ballad of Johnie of Breadiſlee 572
——— dialect, how formed 221
Scriptures, authenticity of, ſupported 29
——— cannot be made to anſwer the ſiniſter views of man 30
——— Old Teſtament, diviſion of the Hebrew text of, into verſes 441, 445
——— New Teſtament, firſt divided into verſes by R. Stephens..... 442, 446
——— chapters of the, formed.. ib.
Sea-weed, verſes deſcribing the.. 304

Secker,

INDEX.

PAGE

Secker, archbiſhop, obſervation from 344
Septuagint, obſervations on the .. 2
Seringapatam, ſiege of deſcribed 101
Serpent, tranſlation of ſome of Lucan's verſes on the, by Dr. Shaw 301
——— tribe, genera of the ..... ib.
Shakſpeare's play of Henry IV. part ii. how altered by Dr Valpy 536
Shirley, excellent ſpecimen of his poetry 620
Sight and hearing, reſemblance of, to each other 489
Sleep, poem on 403
Small-pox, ſentiment of Dr. Mead on the 600
Song 188
Sonnet to the red-breaſt 117
——— addreſſed by an anknown poet to Conſtable 262
——— aſcribed to Drummond of Hawthorden 620
——— by Herbert earl of Pembroke 619
Sore-throat, infectious, remarks on 600
Southwell, pleaſing ſtanza from the poetry of 617
Spallanzani, account of the life and labours of 160
——— philoſophical experiments of 161
——— enriched the muſeum of Pavia 162
——— laſt illneſs of ..... ib.
——— experiments of, in regard to the circulation of the vaſcular ſyſtem 163
Sports and paſtimes in England 366, 398
Stack, Maurice, ſingular fate of ... 19
Stadholderate, nature of the 633
Stocks, on the value of the 585
Stoſch, baron de 660
Suckling, ſir John, criticiſm on the poetry of 621
Sun, on the refraction of the rays of the 33
—— Dr. Herſchell's apparatus for tranſmitting the rays of the, decribed 35
—— hymn to the 69
Survey, trigonometrical, account of, by captain Mudge 41
Switzerland. Helvetic confederacy acknowledged by the houſe of Auſtria 122
——— Griſon league 123
——— manners of, in the 15th century 124

PAGE

T.

Tamerlane, character of 99
——— inſtitutes of 103
Tees, river, origin and courſe of the 333
Teſtament, Old, diviſion of the Hebrew text of 441, 442, 445
——— New, when divided into verſes 442, 446
Tippoo Saib, character of 100
Tithes, increaſing value of 455
——— conſidered under four diſtinct circumſtances 456
——— reſult from the payment of, to lay impropriators ..... ib.
——— beſt in the hands of the clergy 457
——— clergy vindicated concerning ..... ib.
——— unfortunate that they were ever compounded for 458
——— in kind, objections to, encountered 459
——— not injurious to agriculture 460, 461, 462
——— ſecret of the clamours againſt 462
——— commutation of, conſidered 463, 467
——— regulation of, conſidered 467
Titus, the march of, to beſiege Jeruſalem, deſcribed 110
Tortoiſe, land 299
Trade, prohibited articles of, uſually mentioned in European treaties 73
—— ſir F. Eden's obſervations for the improvement of our 637
Trimmer, Mrs. publications by, adapted to charity ſchools 24
Tungooſe. See Ruſſia .....
Tyne, river, origin and courſe of the 335

V. and U.

Veſpaſian, order of marching the troops under 109
Viper, deſcription of the 302
Union with Ireland, lines on the 534
——— with England and Scotland, remarks on the 606
Unitarians, ſpecimen of the mode of biblical criticiſm adopted by them 511
Voltaire, writings of, apologized for by Mounier 517
——— character of, no object of panegyric 518

W.

Wales, North. Fiſhing ſports at Llanvair 132

Wales,

INDEX.

PAGE

Wales, North, cuſtom of planting evergreens in the church-yards of 132
Waſſail, origin of 372
Waters, medicinal, at Hampſtead 541
Weare, river, origin and courſe of 332
Wenlock, John lord, account of.. 266
Wheat, average weight of a buſhel of 359
Winds, Mr. Capper's hypotheſis concerning the origin and nature of the 641
——— prevalent on the weſt coaſt of Africa 643
Winkelreid, Arnold of, a wonderful inſtance of patriotiſm 121
Women, how regarded by the code of Hindoſtan 244
Woodvil, John, extract from the tragedy of 646

Y.

Young, Arthur, an empiric in agriculture 468

Z.

Zodiac, on the origin of the 246

PRINTED BY T. RICKABY, PETERBOROUGH-COURT, FLEET-STREET.

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THE

BRITISH CRITIC,

FOR

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER,
NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER.

M DCCCII.

" Felici!—che nel mondo ognora
Chiari vivrete, in bocca delle gente."

BER. TASSO,

VOLUME XX.

London:

PRINTED FOR F. AND C. RIVINGTON,
NO. 62, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.
1802.

PRINTED BY C. RICKABY, PETERBOROUGH-COURT,
FLEET-STREET.

Academiæ Cantabrigiensis
Liber

PREFACE.

AFTER a labour as long as the ſiege of Troy, we have again to addreſs our readers in our periodical recapitulation. Twenty volumes now bear witneſs to our efforts in defence of all that we hold to be ſound in politics, or venerable in religion. We have ſeen, in part, the triumph of our cauſe; for Jacobiniſm has been, by its own atrociouſneſs, expoſed to univerſal deteſtation*; and, though Infidelity is not ſo openly diſgraced, it has, we truſt, leſs influence, and much leſs power, than when it proceeded hand in hand with an ally ſo very formidable.

How long it may be before malignant paſſions will ceaſe to reproduce the evils, which folly itſelf muſt have learned to eſtimate, it is not poſſible to foreſee; that the time is not yet arrived in the Britiſh empire, ſeveral ſymptoms, diſplayed in various parts, during the late elections, may ſerve ſufficiently to prove. The volunteers of Literature muſt not therefore be diſbanded. Without wielding any arms of offence, they may ſtand, to keep due watch in the garriſon of the conſtitution; well knowing, that a falſe and premature ſecurity is often more deſtructive than the utmoſt rage of conflict.

* In France, the liberty of the Revolution, which was Jacobiniſm, is now thus ſpoken of. "Le peuple eſt degoûté de la liberté; oui, nous le croyons ſans peine, de cette liberté que la plûpart d'entre vous cherchoient à lui donner; de cette liberté qui ſe fonda ſur les principes *d'une folle democratie*, qui exagéra tous les droits, oublia tous les devoirs, admit le crime pour le moyen, des bourreaux pour apôtres," &c.
Camille Jourdan, Vrai Sens du Vote national.

DIVINITY.

While infidels refuſe to ſee the proofs of Chriſtianity which offer themſelves to every eye, the ſtudious enquirer, who diveſts his mind of antichriſtian prejudices, finds new arguments, on every ſide, to ſupport and illuſtrate the truth. *Mr. Maltby* has, with great acuteneſs, collected *Illuſtrations** of the Truth of our Religion, from ſeveral topics, either overlooked or imperfectly diſcuſſed by others. His book is the production of a liberal ſcholar, and a diligent reader, and muſt be received with pleaſure by thoſe of congenial diſpoſitions. More calculated for general, and almoſt univerſal benefit, are the impreſſive *Lectures* of the *Biſhop of London*†; a fifth edition of which is now proving, that they have not excited merely a temporary attention, but alſo that permanent regard to which they are ſo well entitled. Of very primary value, though of no conſiderable bulk, is *Mr. Wordſworth's* book, entitled *Six Letters* to *Granville Sharp, Eſq.*‡ We cannot conceive a perſon in any degree deſerving the title of a biblical critic, to whom the diſcuſſion purſued in thoſe Letters can appear of leſs than the higheſt importance; and the induſtry, acuteneſs, and candour evinced in the Letters themſelves, undeniably prove the writer to be capable of doing juſtice to any taſk, however arduous. The Apoſtolical Epiſtles have received from *Mr. Roberts* an illuſtration of a new kind. He has diſpoſed them, as far as was poſſible, in the form of a *Harmony*§; thus cauſing them to illuſtrate one another, by bringing into compariſon paſſages of a ſimilar nature. The labour beſtowed upon this work is very creditable to its author. The *Elucidation* of *the Common Prayer*, the firſt volume of which was noticed ſome time paſt‖, has been lately continued by *Mr. Shepherd*, in a ſecond vo-

* No. I. p. 44. † No. II. p. 125; No. III. p. 298.
‡ No. I. p. 15. § No. IV. p. 418. ‖ Vol. x. p. 388.

lume,

lume*, but is not yet completed. It is a work of merit and utility; having more that is neceſſary, and leſs that is ſuperfluous, than any other of the kind. As a book, combining claſſical knowledge with that of divinity, and tending to conduct the reader with pleaſure from the one to the other ſtudy, *Dr. Popham's Extracts* from the *Pentateuch* deſerve our commendation†. A difficulty, which to a few writers has appeared formidable, is ſolved by *Mr. Niſbett*, in his book on the *Coming* of the *Meſſiah*‡, in which, if there is any fault, it is more allied to a ſuperabundance than a deficiency of argument. A reprinted tract of the late *Mr. Rotheram on Faith*§, provides a ſtrong, and, at this period, a ſeaſonable antidote againſt the errors daily broached, on that important ſubject: and the recommendation of the excellent Society for promoting Chriſtian Knowledge will, we truſt, attract attention to it. *Mr. De Luc's* Letters on *Chriſtianity*‖, deſerve to find a circulation here, as well as on the Continent. The character of the writer is well known in this country, to thoſe whoſe recommendation ought to have the greateſt weight. A volunteer miſſionary in Pruſſia, he now contends, at an advanced age, for that ſacred cauſe, which, in ſome parts of the Continent, has, we fear, more aſſailants than able advocates.

We paſs now to volumes of collected Sermons, of which we have had ſeveral lately before us of very prominent merit. *Mr. Plumptre's Chriſtian Guide*¶, is a volume of plain diſcourſes, written on a connected plan, and well calculated to lead the hearer or reader, ſtep by ſtep, to a ſound and general knowledge of the leading principles of Chriſtian Faith. The Sermons of *Dr. Randolph* of Bath**, after being zealouſly admired by congregations well qualified to judge, are candidates for the more diffuſive celebrity which the preſs is able to confer. The former ſucceſs is proba-

* No. III. p. 308. † Ib. 289. ‡ No. V. p. 541.
§ No. VI. p. 683. ‖ *Lettres ſur le Chriſtianiſme*, No. IV. p. 351.
¶ No. IV. p. 440. ** No. I. p. 83.

bly

bly a ſufficient pledge for the latter. From Bath alſo proceeded the *Diſcourſes* of *Mr. Daubeny**, on the connection between the Old and New Teſtament; a ſubject of importance, neglected by too many Chriſtians, but eſſential to their faith, and here moſt ably enforced. Of the *Biſhop of Hereford's*† *Sermons*, which the venerable author had ſtyled poſthumous, we were fortunate enough to make mention, while it was yet poſſible for him to know of our teſtimony to his merit. Whether at that late period he retained his ſenſibility for any praiſe, but that

> Which lives and ſpreads abroad, by thoſe pure eyes
> And perfect witneſs of all-judging Jove,

we know not; but when to do juſtice, is alſo to have a chance of giving pleaſure, we have naturally a livelier ſtimulus than at other times. From Scotland, whence many good Sermons have come, we have a reſpectable volume, the production of *Dr. Mackenzie*‡, of Port-Patrick. The livelineſs and energy of his reaſonings led us to dwell with pleaſure on his diſcourſes; and to overlook ſome trifling defects of language, ariſing from local habits.

We come, in the third place, to ſingle diſcourſes; whether from the Epiſcopal Chair or from the Pulpit; in the former of which claſſes, our attention is immediately called to the primary *Charge* of the learned and able *Biſhop of Oxford*§. The topics choſen by the Biſhop are partly general, relating to the characteriſtics of the times, and partly reſtricted to the immediate concerns of our national Church. Reſpecting both, he ſpeaks in a ſtyle at once full and compreſſed, acute and energetic; calculated to command not only the attention of his clergy, but the aſſent and approbation of all who, with unprejudiced minds, ſhall peruſe his forcible addreſs. Among Sermons on public occaſions, we have not often met with one ſo excellent as

* No. IV. p. 390. † No. V. p. 493. ‡ No. VI. p. 595.
§ No. III. p. 268.

Dr. Vincent, now *Dean of Weſtminſter**, preached before the Houſe of Commons, on the day of the thankſgiving for peace. The advancement of men ſo qualified to inſtruct, by precept and example, is a real triumph to religion. Wherever we turn, in the united kingdom, we find pleaſing proofs of the ability and learning of preachers. In Scotland, two public Societies have received additional celebrity from the Miniſters appointed to fill their pulpits. The Society incorporated for the Sons of the Scottiſh Clergy, from the Diſcourſe of *Dr. Finlayſon*†; and the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, from the Sermon of *Dr. Lawrence Brown*‡; the former treating of the utility of preaching, the latter on the danger of indifference to religion. In Ireland, *Dr. Magee*§, drawing juſt and awful reflections from the death of the late eminent Chancellor, has produced an intereſting diſcourſe. The juſtice he renders to the character of Lord Clare, and the admonitions he deduces from his death, both tend to increaſe that which was not the object of the Sermon, his own well-merited fame. In preaching for the Magdalen Charity, the *Dean of Briſtol*‖ has uſefully reproved the relaxation of public manners, and marked the dangers that ariſe from admitting even the firſt approaches to corruption. At the conſecration of the Biſhop of Rocheſter, *Dr. Foſter*¶, of Eton College, preached, and has ſince publiſhed, a diſcourſe, in which, while he juſtifies eſtabliſhments in general, he pays the tribute of a faithful ſon to that under which we live. *Mr. Pearſon's* Sermon *on* the *Sin of Schiſm*** is one of thoſe vigorous remonſtrances which, if argument ever conquered prepoſſeſſion, might be expected to produce extenſive benefit. We have other works of this able author before us, which wait rather for their relative place with reſpect to other publications, than for the

* No. I. p. 81. † No. I. p. 66. ‡ No. III. p. 326.
§ No. II. p. 201. ‖ No. V. p. 560. ¶ No. VI. p. 681.
** No. II. p. 202.

deter-

determination of our judgment reſpecting them. We have had occaſion to notice three Sermons by *Mr. Partridge*, of Boſton*, all uſeful in deſign, and not leſs ſucceſsful in performance. By a Sermon in favour of *Sunday Schools*, *Mr. S. Clapham*† has again deſerved the commendations which we give with pleaſure to deſert; a reward he has frequently achieved, and, we truſt, will continue to claim. Laſtly, *Mr. Eſtlin*, by an argumentative and learned Sermon on *the Sabbath*‡, has ably combated a diſſent, which reaſonable diſſenters cannot poſſibly approve.

Before we cloſe the article of Divinity, we ſhall venture to make an exception to our general rules, by calling the attention of our readers, not to a work reviewed, but to the critique in which it has been oppoſed. Our remarks upon the Antichriſtian annotations of *Dr. Geddes* on the Bible occupy eight ſucceſſive numbers§ of this Review; and will be found, we believe, to contain the beſt antidote that has yet been provided againſt that moſt dangerous work. More we forbear to ſay; but thus far, for the ſake of public utility, we have ventured to deviate from our ordinary plan.

MORALITY.

In our preceding Preface, we placed in this claſs the firſt volume of *Miſs Hamilton's Letters on Education*; the ſecond‖, which we have ſince noticed, ſhould therefore have a ſimilar ſituation. The Letters, with a few exceptions, deſerve conſiderable praiſe; and have excited, we believe, an attention proportioned to their merit. From a political tract of much value, *Mr. Bowles* has ſelected, and ſeparately publiſhed, his Remarks on *Female Manners*¶; in

* No. IV. p. 437; V. 561; VI. 682. † No. IV. p. 437.
‡ No. II. p. 206. § See vol. xix. pp. 1, 134, 283, 343, 524, 623; alſo Vol. xx. No. I. p. 53; and No. II. p. 165.
‖ No. V. p. 477. ¶ No. IV. p. 444.

which he gives ſuch admonitions as the faſhions extort, on that far from unimportant ſubject.

LAW.

It is with pleaſure that we commence this claſs at preſent, with a laborious and valuable compilation of a learned author, now deſervedly in the ſituation of a Judge, at Madras. This is *Mr. Gwillim's* work on the Laws and Caſes *of Tithes**. It amounts to four volumes, and is acknowledged to be an important acceſſion to the profeſſional library. Other legal works of equal importance have not lately come before us. We have, however, to mention *Mr. Peake's Compendium of the Law of Evidence*†, a book of merit, which has illuſtrated, though it has not exhauſted, that ſubject of daily recurrence. Of a more confined nature is the learned treatiſe of *Mr. Abbott*, on the *Law relating* to *Merchant Ships*‡; it is, however, a ſound and uſeful work. That much-agitated ſubject, the *Poor Laws*, has lately employed the pen of *Mr. H. B. Dudley*§, who, as an active magiſtrate in Eſſex, has had many opportunities of knowing their operation, and aſcertaining their defects. It is, however, a ſubject to which hitherto no ſagacity has proved fully equal. Other remarks on it we have lately ſeen, but little worthy of notice.

While the intended Bill for regulating the Reſidence of the parochial Clergy remains in ſuſpence, they who feel an intereſt in the queſtion will do well to conſider with attention the facts, ſtatements, and reaſonings laid before the public in the *Speech of Sir William Scott*‖. We felt it a point of duty to give the beſt analyſis we could form of it; but to the Speech itſelf every one ſhould have recourſe, who wiſhes to be fully informed. On a matter ſo com-

* No. I. p. 13. † No. IV. p. 427. ‡ No. VI. p. 661.
§ No. I. p. 88. ‖ No. III. p. 261.

plex

plex and difficult, there will be many diſcordant opinions; but that ſuch a buſineſs could not be committed to better hands few will heſitate to pronounce. *Mr. Hook's* tract, entitled *Anguis in herba**, relates to the ſame queſtion; but is rather a vindication of the clergy againſt ſome particular calumnies, than a diſcuſſion of the general topic. A well-intended tract, on the ſubject of *Dilapidations*, compriſed in *Six Letters*†, may conclude our preſent account of books connected with the ſubject of Law.

POLITICS.

In this claſs, many conſiderations unite at preſent, to give the firſt place to a work originally foreign. *Mr. Gentz's* book, *on the State of Europe, before and after the French Revolution*‡, written in anſwer to the profligate and impudent tract of *Hauterive*§, is in itſelf a moſt argumentative and maſterly performance; and is rendered ſtill more valuable in the Engliſh tranſlation, by the Preface of *Mr. Herries*, the tranſlator, defending the Navigation Act and the Maritime Law of England. To have found ſo juſt and powerful an advocate for Great Britain in the court of Pruſſia, is an advantage beyond expectation; and if any thing can open the eyes of Europe to the impoſitions and falſehoods of France, it muſt be the intervention of ſome neutral reaſoner, like Mr. Gentz, with ſagacity to diſtinguiſh, and courage to declare, the real ſtate of facts. *Mr. Roſe's* publication *on the Civil Liſt*‖ is, virtually, an official document, clear and ſatisfactory in its ſtatements, and cogent in its reaſonings. On the more general topic of finance, *Mr. D. Wakefield's*¶ anſwer to *Mr. Morgan's Comparative View*, is a tract of great ability. A part of his conſiderations, which had been borrowed from us, we thought it right to re-

* No. II. p. 207. † No. I. p. 96. ‡ No. IV. p. 403; V. 524; VI. 628. § Entitled "*Etat de la France à la fin de l'An VIII.*" ‖ No. II. p. 211. ¶ No. IV. p. 354.

claim;

claim; but the liberal ſtyle of his reply* convinced us, that he was ready to acknowledge whatever he thought it expedient to borrow. The Peace long occupied the attention of political writers; but its *probable effects* on the commerce of this country have not, we believe, been better calculated, than in a pamphlet which we noticed in October laſt†. This writer was well ſatisfied with the ſtate and aſpect of things. Not ſo *Lord Grenville;* who, in *a Speech*‡ of great ability, attacked in particular the Convention with Ruſſia, and ſpoke of many impending evils, which we truſt will be averted. The well-exerciſed pen of *Mr. Bowles* has appealed with force to the public, againſt the unqualified panegyric on the late Duke of Bedford§; and againſt the ſymptoms of Jacobiniſm which ſhowed themſelves during the general election‖. That pure and genuine Jacobiniſm ſhould exiſt in Europe, after the dreadful experience of its tendencies in France, would not be credible, had it not at the ſame time been proved to originate, not ſo much in error of underſtanding, as in malignity of ſoul. *Mr. Capper's Statiſtical* tract¶, will be found to contain ſome ſtatements deſerving of attention, and if not to be received with implicit confidence, may yet be conſulted with advantage.

History.

After proceeding with *Mr. Maurice* through the laborious reſearches of his *Ancient Hiſtory* and *Antiquities* of *Hindoſtan*, we have ſeen him commence a more popular career in his *Modern Hiſtory* of the ſame regions**. The firſt volume is already completed, carrying the chain of events nearly to the cloſe of the fourteenth century; that is, exactly to the point where the moſt intereſting part of the ſubject commences.

* See No. V. p. 583. † No. IV. p. 441. ‡ No. IV. p. 367.
§ No. I. p. 93; III. 331. ‖ No. V. p. 543. ¶ No. I. p. 84.
** No. I. p. 1; V. 479.

The

The enterprises of the European nations in India, and more especially the rise and progress of the British Empire in that country, will excite the liveliest attention; and will reward, it may be hoped, the efforts of the historian. A work of actual and eager interest, is the narrative of *the British Expedition in Egypt*, written by *Sir Robert Wilson**. With the unaffected energy of a soldier, this author does justice to the achievements of the British forces, repels the calumnies of the enemy, and shows in their true light some transactions, over which partial history will endeavour in vain to throw a veil. The false statements of *Regnier*, respecting the same campaign, are also combated in a separate tract†, by an officer who withholds his name. A very different account of Egypt has been the subject of Professor *White's* labours. The *Arabic Compendium* of *Abdollatif*‡, has received from that profound scholar such illustrations, as few others are qualified to give; and the means of comparison between the ancient state of that country and the present, are thus presented to the public. The British Expediton to Holland, though from circumstances less splendid than that to Egypt, deserved in many respects to find a faithful historian; and found it, we conceive, in *Dr. Walsh*. His *Narrative*§, though not the record of triumphs, is full of interest from a different cause; and we feel for the soldier in his difficulties, not less than we participate in his successes. The *Elements of General History*, as given in the two volumes of *Mr. Tytler*‖, lead the reader by the hand through many ages and countries. To abridge is not difficult; but to abridge with taste and spirit is a talent far from common. As these Lectures illustrate Civil History, so the same service would have been rendered to Ecclesiastical History by those of *Dr. G. Campbell*¶, had he been as cautious or as candid in that work, as he was in his

* No. VI. p. 585. † No. VI. p. 691. ‡ No. II. p. 107; IV. 360. § No. II. p. 146. ‖ No. II. p. 175.
¶ No. III. p. 237.

other

other productions; or had not thoſe Lectures paſſed through other hands, in their progreſs to the public eye. That they contain paſſages unworthy of the general character of the author, we have ſhown in the proper place.

Biography.

The revivers of European literature are themſelves reviving in new ſplendour, by the labours of Engliſh biographers. *Poggio*, ſeverely cenſured by ſome writers, but certainly a zealous benefactor to letters, has received vindication and applauſe, from the pen of *Mr. Shepherd**, who, emulating the fame of Mr. Roſcoe, has produced a literary life, introductory, in point of time, to the Lorenzo of that author. *Mr. Churton*, known by ſome valuable publications in Divinity, has lately publiſhed the Lives of the principal Founders of Brazen-Noſe College, Oxford†. Such benefactors to mankind as Biſhop Smyth, and Sir Richard Sutton, certainly are ſubjects well deſerving the celebration of a learned biographer. The melancholy cataſtrophe of the life of the unfortunate Louis XVI. has appeared in Italian, at an Engliſh preſs‡; partly tranſlated from the affecting narrative of *Clery*, and partly augmented by original information, obtained from Mr. Edgeworth. There are few invented Tragedies in any degree ſo affecting, as the real anecdotes of that Royal Sufferer and his Family.

Antiquities.

The antiquities of language being as well worthy of notice as thoſe of buildings, habits, or manners, we ſhall begin this article with *Mr.* (now *Dr.*) *Leyden's* republication of an ancient tract, entitled "the Com-

* No. IV. p. 374. † No. III. p. 283. ‡ No. I. p. 92.

playnt

playnt of Scotland*." The Diſſertation and Gloſſary are the very creditable reſult of much inveſtigation into the earlier language of Scotland; and are in all reſpects honourable to the talents and ſagacity of the author. Curioſity has been but ſeldom directed, for a conſiderable time paſt, to the hiſtory of the Monaſtic Orders, which have been conſidered as but little worthy of enquiry. *Mr. Foſbrook*, therefore, has found a field almoſt untouched, in tracing the manners and cuſtoms of the Nuns and Monks of England. His book, entitled *Britiſh Monachiſm*†, records much, that without his aid would have been in imminent danger of oblivion. *Londinium Redivivum*‡, by *Mr. Malcolm*, is perhaps ſtrictly a topographical book; but, as its materials are chiefly ancient, it may here be mentioned with almoſt equal propriety. The proſecution of this work will be deſired by many curious readers. A more familiar work, and in many reſpects pleaſing, may laſtly be mentioned, *Sir H. Engleſield's* walk through *Southampton*§. Both the pen and the pencil have here been exerciſed by the ingenious author.

TRAVELS.

Our perpetual race with travellers continues, and it may ſeem, that we cannot read ſo faſt as they can print; but it muſt be conſidered that we have variety to conſult, and that "*toujours perdrix*" will anſwer leſs for periodical works, than for any other productions of the preſs. *Mr. Sauer's Expedition to the Northern Parts of Ruſſia*‖, has much in it of amuſement, and much of information. From the two parts of our article upon it, the character of it may fully be deduced, and it cannot be otherwiſe than favourable. *Mr. Wolff's Sketches and Obſervations*¶,

* No. I. p. 8. † No. II. p. 112. ‡ No. V. p. 504.
§ No. IV. p. 444. ‖ No. I. p. 32. ¶ ART. I. p. 48.

have

have in them more of livelineſs than of ſolidity; they contain, however, much entertaining matter. If to ſail with the Britiſh fleet to one of its moſt glorious ſcenes of action, be a legitimate claim to attention, *Mr. C. Willyams* will not want readers for his *Voyage up the Mediterranean**. The battle of the Nile is an incident not eaſily paralleled; and this traveller calls the pencil to his aid, when deſcription ſeems to be inadequate. To penetrate into the unknown regions of Africa, has been for ſome years a primary object of ambition, and the Miſſionaries of Geography have, in this purſuit, almoſt rivalled the Miſſionaries of Religion, in courage. The ſucceſs of *Mr. Horneman*†, now in Africa, has already been conſiderable, and promiſes to be ſtill more complete. There are ſome who would have him a real miſſionary, and object to his pretended Mohammedaniſm, as a heavy crime; but it is one thing to renounce Chriſtianity entirely, for worldly purpoſes, and another to conceal the profeſſion of it for a temporary purpoſe. The one is apoſtacy and ſhame, the other ſeems to rank with modes of diſguiſe in general; and though we may praiſe the zeal, we cannot admire the judgment, of thoſe who are offended at it. A Voyage to the *Eaſt-Indies*, by *Fra Paolino*‡, has been preſented to us in Engliſh, and is well calculated to attract the Britiſh reader. The illuſtrations of Dr. Reinhold Foſter, are a material addition to its value. But much more ſingular expeditions have been deſcribed by *Sir Alexander Mackenzie*, whoſe *Voyages from Montreal*§ demanded every reſource that courage, patience, and ingenuity, could poſſibly ſupply. To have penetrated to the Northern and the Weſtern Seas, through the barbarous regions of America, is to have done what, in ſuggeſtion, would have been thought romantic and impracticable. *Mr. Coxe's*

* No. II. p. 152. † No. III. p. 225. ‡ No. IV. p. 345.
§ No. V. p. 465; VI. 645.

well-

well-known *Travels in Switſerland** have received ſome late additions, hiſtorical rather than topographical; but ſuch as were required to complete the author's plan.

PHILOSOPHY.

While the Traveller examines the diviſions of the earth, and deſcribes their inhabitants, he is cloſely followed by the Philoſopher, who ſcrutinizes its productions, and endeavours to aſcertain their nature. The philoſopher aſſumes various names, according to the various objects of his purſuit; he is at one time a chemiſt, at another a botaniſt; or perhaps an aſtronomer, or a natural hiſtorian, as he happens to attend to the different branches of natural knowledge: to us it is at preſent convenient to amalgamate thoſe various diſtinctions under the general name.

To watch and to record the general progreſs of Philoſophy, was the plan of the *Annals* publiſhed by the late *Dr. Garnett*†: the continuation of his plan will be a tribute to his memory, which we truſt will be duly paid. On the ſubject of Aſtronomy, we have lately had two uſeful works before us; that of *Mr. O. Gregory*‡, which, though demonſtrated on mathematical principles, is thrown into a popular form: and that of *Profeſſor Vince*§, which is an abridgment of his larger work on the ſame ſubject, intended as an elementary introduction for ſtudents. The ſame learned and able Profeſſor has given an elementary work on *Hydroſtatics*‖, and, in conjunction with Mr. Wood of the the ſame Univerſity¶, has completed a ſet of philoſophical introductions for academical uſe, the account of which will be found in various parts of our late volumes. The *Tranſactions of the Royal Society* of London, muſt always deſerve a conſpicuous place in a philoſophical claſſification; the account of the ſe-

* No. III. p. 306. † No. II. p. 157. ‡ No. III. p. 250.
§ No. VI. p. 655. ‖ No. IV. p. 413. ¶ Cambridge.

cond

cond part for the year 1801, will be found at large in our preſent volume*. Works of inferior note, yet well deſerving of mention in this claſs, are the *Prodromus Lepidopterorum † Britannicorum;* the *Elements of Natural Hiſtory*‡, a moſt uſeful ſynopſis of Britiſh productions, in the ſix principal claſſes of nature; and a ſmall but ſenſible tract, by a *Mr. Fenwick*, on *Practical Mathematics*§. A curious memoir, on the natural hiſtory of man, appears in *M. Itard's* account of the Education of a Savage‖, tending to ſhow, as many other proofs conſpire to do, how neceſſary language is to the developement of the human intellect.

Medicine.

Nothing can be more intimate than the connection between medical and philoſophical ſcience. In this, however, and the branches connected with it, we have not at preſent much to notice that appears important. The credit juſtly attached to the name of the late *Dr. G. Fordyce*, attracts attention to a poſthumous Diſſertation on *Fever*¶, the fourth which he produced. The utility of his labours on this ſubject will ever be acknowledged, though even his talents and experience could not, by any means, remove its difficulties. *Dr. Thornton's Facts***, reſpecting the *Cow-Pox*, tend materially to augment the growing evidence in favour of its inoculation. Of ſuch collective works as *Dr. Thomas's Modern Practice of Phyſic*††, and *Mr. J. Bell's Principles of Surgery*‡‡, the chief recommendations ought to be accuracy, comprehenſiveneſs, and cheapneſs; the latter quality cannot be attributed to either of theſe books; but, particularly not to the ſecond, which, by ſuperfluous and ill-placed magni-

* No. III. p. 272; IV. 380. † No. II. p. 211. ‡ No. V. p. 549. § No. VI. p. 694. ‖ No. V. p. 575. ¶ No. V. p. 545. ** No. I. p. 77. †† No. IV. p. 422. ‡‡ No. VI. p. 613.

ficence, is rendered heavily expenſive. A tract on the *Morbid Affections of the Knee-Joint*, does honour to the profeſſional knowledge of its author, *Mr. Ruſſell* *; and here we muſt cloſe our account of productions, unleſs we may add to the liſt, *Mr. Blaine's* work on *Veterinary Medicine*†. The attention lately paid by ſcientific men to the application of medicine and ſurgery to the cure of animals, promiſes the moſt rapid improvement in that line of practice.

Two works of foreign origin may be ſubjoined to this enumeration; theſe are, the *Medical and Phyſical Memoirs* of *Dr. Caldwell*, an American Phyſician‡, and the treatiſe on the Brunonian Syſtem, by *Dr. Pfaff* §, a Profeſſor of Medicine in Germany. The latter is particularly valuable, not only as containing a correct view of Brown's Syſtem, but alſo an examination of it, upon principles of ſound reaſon, of which it is not found to ſtand the teſt. Men more attached to truth than theory, have long perceived this in England; the ſuffrage of the German practitioner may probably open more eyes.

POETRY.

From the walks of Science to the flights of Fancy, is a tranſition which many will be glad to make with us. Nor ſhall we conduct them at preſent to a ſcanty ſtore of entertainment; our articles of this kind being ſo numerous, that we muſt ſubdivide the claſs to give it perſpicuity. Firſt, then, for volumes of original Poetry. The verſes of the *Poet Laureat*, produced near *Stoke Park*‖, claim the firſt place in this enumeration. They are miſcellaneous, and highly pleaſing. The *Verſes ſocial and domeſtic*, by *Mr. G. Drummond*¶, exhibit an agreeable application of poetry to the retired ſcenes and private affections of life.

* No. V. p. 500. † No. IV. p. 422. ‡ No. I. p. 41.
§ No. VI. p. 679. ‖ No. I. p. 69. ¶ No. II. p. 195.

To

To *Mr. G. Dyer's** Muſe we have nothing to object, except when a particular topic ſtrikes her view. Theſe partial affections of ingenious minds are not uncommon. But ladies more particularly demand our notice in the compaſs of the preſent volume. *Mrs. J. Hunter*†, in this elegant train, is honourably conſpicuous; and almoſt every reader will find in her collection, that he had admired the effuſions of her genius, before he knew from whom they came. In the pathetic ſtyle of compoſition, *Mrs. Opie*‡ alſo claims to be remarked. We have cited a Poem from her, which, if ſhe ever ſurpaſſes, ſhe will be more fortunate than moſt writers are. As a third poeteſs, we muſt not omit to mention *Miſs Watts*§; her collection, though not entirely her own, derives its chief luſtre from her pen. *The Metrical Miſcellany*‖ alſo proceeds from a female editor, *Mrs. Riddell*, and has many original beauties ſupplied by her own talents. Other ladies are alſo diſtinguiſhed by excurſions of the trueſt genius, in the ſame collection. But we muſt return to male poetry, in which an eminent place is due to an anonymous writer, whoſe volume is ſtyled *Wallace*¶, from the principal Poem it contains. If it is aſked, why we refer theſe compoſitions to one ſex rather than the other, many reaſons might be given; but among them, the tranſlations from Greek authors, which occur in the collection. That this is not deciſive, we allow; but it is a corroboration. The *Poems* of *Mr. Wrangham***, long printed, and lately publiſhed, are not uncreditable to him. A ſmall volume, by *Mr. Colman*, bearing the jocular title of *Broad Grins*††, is leſs than half new; the reſt was publiſhed by himſelf a few years paſt.

Of ſmaller productions, we muſt by no means paſs in ſilence *Mr. Anſley's* ſecond Part of the *Pleader's*

* No. II. p. 121. † No. IV. p. 409. ‡ No. V. p. 553.
§ No. II. p. 196. ‖ No. III. p. 258. ¶ No. VI. p. 673.
** Ib. p. 675. †† No. IV. p. 431.

*Guide**. It happily ſupports the ſpirit of the former Part, and completes the ſtory in a manner highly ſatisfactory. The *Caledonian Herd-Boy*, by *D. Service*†, is the production of an uneducated youth; and, as ſuch, deſerves the notice of thoſe who think the circumſtances of the writer of more conſequence than the perfection of the work.

The *School for Satire*‡ is a ſelection of Poems, of which a very ſmall part is at preſent new: and the *Poetical Regiſter*§, amidſt much various matter, has many Poems now firſt embodied in a regular collection.

As a poetical tranſlation, *Mr. Moore's Anacreon*‖ muſt not claſs with thoſe which are ſcrupulouſly exact, but rather with ſuch as are elegantly paraphraſtical. But *Mr. Gifford's Juvenal*¶ exhibits a moſt arduous taſk, performed in a moſt maſterly ſtyle. To tranſlate Juvenal with ſucceſs, is to preſerve vigour unimpaired, to illuſtrate with grace, and ſometimes to conceal without mutilating; occaſionally to riſe to grandeur of thought, to tranſfuſe a ſubtile wit, and always to maintain a dignity of ſtyle. Tried by theſe teſts, the Juvenal of Mr. Gifford commands an applauſe, which we have given, and now repeat with ſatisfaction.

DRAMATIC.

The acceſſions to the drama in our preſent volume conſiſt chiefly of Plays which have not been introduced to the ſtage. To this claſs belongs *Miſs J. Baillie's* ſecond volume**; the picture of paſſion drawn by genius. Theſe Plays, with every thing that can be alledged in diminution of their merit, are a bright light in the midſt of a general dramatic darkneſs. With no ſmall ſkill and talent, *Mr. Sotheby* has con-

* No. IV. p. 400. † No. III. p. 320. ‡ No. V. p. 556.
§ No. II. p. 271. ‖ Vo. I. p. 27. ¶ No. V. p. 512; VI. 615. ** No. II. p. 184.

trived to dramatize the Tale of *Oberon**; making, at the ſame time, a bold effort to adapt the ſtory of *Oreſtes* to the feelings of modern times. The *Bedouins*, by *Mr. Irwin*†, contains an oriental picture, drawn by one who has ſeen the original, and therefore may be expected to draw with truth. The Tragedy of *Alfonſo*‡ has been tried on the London ſtage, and not without ſucceſs. The author ſays, it is the beſt he can produce. To us it manifeſtly appears the firſt fruits of a Genius really tragic, and an earneſt of much better productions, ſhould that Genius be matured by practice and judicious cultivation.

Languages.

Several Grammars and Dictionaries have lately claimed our notice; among which, we ſhall here mention three, relating to the Oriental tongues. *Mr. Gilchriſt's Anti-Jargoniſt*§, is a judicious introduction to the common language of Hindoſtan. *Mr. Lebedeff's* publication of the ſame kind‖ profeſſes much more; but the comparative eſtimate of them muſt be left to thoſe who have ſtudied the dialects of Bengal. *A Grammar of the Malay Tongue*¶ has alſo been provided for thoſe whoſe commercial occaſions may require it.

A portable Engliſh Dictionary, by *Mr. Fulton***, ſeemed to us entitled to commendation. The author has paid particular attention to pronunciation, and apparently with more ſucceſs than moſt of his predeceſſors.

Miscellanies.

A few works united under this vague deſcription will cloſe our preſent labour: and here let us give

* No. I. p. 62. † No. IV. p. 433. ‡ No. V. p. 558.
§ No. I. p. 93. ‖ No. IV. p. 453. ¶ Ib. p. 454.
** No. I. p. 99.

the preference of place to the collected works of that general favourite *Goldſmith**, with a Life of him, conveying much of novel information. *Mr. Graves's* miſcellaneous volume, entitled *Senilities*†, ſhows us an author ſtill capable of amuſing others, at a period of life when men in general depend on the activity of younger minds to exhilarate their hours of relaxation. The poſthumous *Letters of Dr. Berdmore*, on *Literary Reſemblance*‡ do ſome credit to his acuteneſs, at the expence of a more pleaſing quality; but the three Diſcourſes of an anonymous author, delivered at a *County Book Club*§, ſhow us literature in one of its moſt amiable forms. The *Eſſay on Iriſh Bulls*, by the houſe of *Edgeworth*‖, has in it many amuſing paſſages; but nothing more amuſing than the practical bull conveyed in the entire tenor of its concluding chapter, which completely overturns the whole argument of the book. *Dr. Lettſom's Hints*¶ to promote *Benevolence*, will probably have the full effect deſigned by the author; ſince nothing can be more eaſy, than to inculcate a virtue to thoſe who are by nature filled with ſtrong propenſities to practiſe it. The *Sketches* of *Phyſiognomy*, aſcribed to *Lavater***, are like the reſt of his productions, curious and amuſing; that they will ever be found productive of real uſe, is more than we can venture to promiſe. A work, profeſſedly improved from Harwood, by *Mr. T. F. Dibdin*††, as an introduction to the editions of the Greek and Roman Claſſics, will certainly be found convenient to many ſtudents, and therefore deſerves encouragement. The *Woodland Companion*‡‡, a compendium of much that is uſeful in Dr. Hunter's admirable edition of the *Sylva*, will be ſought by thoſe to whom the purchaſe of the larger work may be formidable, while ſome knowledge of the ſubject is deſirable or neceſſary. A tranſlated work from *M. Beaujour*, *on*

* No. III. p. 295. † No. V. p. 568. ‡ No. III. p. 333.
§ No. VI. p. 693. ‖ No. III. 332. ¶ No. VI. p. 690.
** No. II. p. 156. †† No. IV. p. 445. ‡‡ No. V. p. 577.

the

*the Commerce of Greece**, puts our merchants in poſſeſſion of a ſtore of obſervations, intended originally for thoſe of France. We truſt that ſuch hints as are uſeful will be turned to a juſt advantage. From Spain we have ſeldom any literary importation; but the *Teſoro Eſpañol* of *Mr. Joſſet*† is ſufficient to prove, that the Spaniſh language is not without its treaſures; though in literature, as well as in commerce, the Spaniards ſeem more inclined to draw riches from the old mines, than to open new veins of diſcovery.

Here then, reader, let us once more take our leave. We have pointed out abundant ſources of inſtruction and amuſement; if, in ſuch variety, you find it difficult to be pleaſed, you muſt, we fear, reſemble Sterne's diſcontented traveller, who could go from Dan to Beerſheba, and exclaim "it is all barren!"

* No. VI. p. 695. † No. V. p. 578.

TABLE

TO THE

BOOKS REVIEWED IN VOLUME XX.

N. B. For remarkable Paſſages in the Criticiſms and Extracts, ſee the INDEX at the End of the Volume.

A. PAGE

ABBOTT's treatiſe of the law relative to merchant ſhips and ſeamen — — 661
Abdollatiphi hiſtoriæ Ægypti compendium. Arab. et Lat. a White — 105, 360
Ackland's thankſgiving ſermon 562
Adair's edition of Mr. Fox's letter — — 686
Adams's hiſtory of Great Britain 213
Adkin's thankſgiving ſermon 562
Allnatt's Poverty, a poem 199
Anacreon. Odes, tranſlated by Moore — — 27
Anderſon's recreations in agriculture — — 438
Anſtey's pleader's guide — 400
Athenæi, Deipnoſophiſtæ a Schweighæuſer — 582

B.

Baillie's Plays on the Paſſions of the Mind, vol. ii. — 184
Bankers, the impolicy of returning them as members of parliament — — 689
Barrett on the conſtellations of the zodiac — — 477
——'s introduction to Engliſh grammar — 575
Bartley on the converſion of paſture land into tillage — 684
Baſeley's ſermons — 82

PAGE

Batty's ſtrictures on the churchwardens, &c. of Mancheſter 567
Beaujour's view of the commerce of Greece — 695
Bedford, duke, letter to Mr. Fox on his character of — 331
Bell's, J. principles of ſurgery 601
Belſham's elements of the philoſophy of the mind — ib.
Benſon on the impropriety of interfering in the internal policy of other ſtates — 688
Bidlake's Youth, a poem — 75
Blaine's outlines of the veterinary arts — — 423
Book club, diſcourſes at — 693
Booker's diſcourſe on the cow-pox 206
Booth. Medullæ Græcæ linguæ 569
Bowles's ſermon for ſons of the clergy — — 82
——, J. on modern female manners — 444
—— on the late general election 543
Brewſter's thankſgiving ſermon 562
Bridges over the Menai and Conway, thoughts on — 452
Brook's, Mrs. dialogue on a journey through England and Wales 451
Brookes's Gazetteer — 572

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Brown's ſermon on indifference to religion — — 327
Bryer on the cow-pox — 78
Burdon's thoughts on politics, morality, and literature — 445
Butler's algebra — 577
——— thankſgiving ſermon 682

C.

Cailhava. Etudes ſur Moliere 460
Caldwell's medical and phyſical memoirs — — 41
Campbell's lectures on eccleſiaſtical hiſtory — 237
Cancer. Obſervations on the cancerous breaſt — 79
Carr's ſermon to odd fellows 563
Caſe's pictures of Britiſh female poeſy — — 430
——— Minſtrel Youth — 431
Caſſano. Il fiore della poeſia Italiano del ſecolo xviii — 557
Caulfield's reply to ſir Richard Muſgrave — 91
Chateaubriant's Atala, tranſlated from the French — 691
Cockburn's Peter's denial of Chriſt, a Seatonian prize poem — 675
Cheſter's, biſhop, thankſgiving ſermon on the peace — 201
Cheyne. Eſſays on the diſeaſes of children, namely, the croup 79
Churton's lives of the founders of brazen-noſe college — 283
Clapham's ſermon on Sunday ſchools — — 437
Clarke's thankſgiving ſermon 204
——— tabulæ linguarum 451
Cobbett's works — 212
Collectanea, or an aſſemblage of anecdotes from foreign authors 446
Colman's Broad Grins — 431
Cooke's univerſal atlas — 449
Corbet on ſelf-employment in ſecret — — 206
Cordelie, ou les deux Tartuffes 77
Cormilliole. L'Achilleide et les Sylves de Stace — 459

PAGE

Corneille's Cid, tranſlation of 320
Correſpondence between the lords of the Admiralty, earl St. Vincent, earl Spencer, and admiral ſir John Orde — 94
Corry's memoirs of Alfred Berkeley — — 433
Cottle's new verſion of the Pſalms 197
Courtier's pleaſures of ſolitude 432
Coxe's additions to travels in Switzerland — 306
—— Monmouthſhire abridged 569
Crabb. The order and method of inſtructing children — 446
Crimea, travels in the — 333
Croft's ſermon before the clergy at Briſtol — 437
Crowther's moral tales and poetical eſſays — 95

D.

Daniel's rural ſports — 576
Daubeny's eight diſcourſes 390
Daubenton. Inſtruction pour les bergers et pour les proprietaires des troupeaux — 458
Davies's aſſize ſermon — 562
Deleſſart's dictionnaire hiſtorique, &c. vol. v. et vi. — 102
De Luc. Lettres ſur le Chriſtianiſme — — 351
Democratic ſcheming, the guilt of, proved againſt the diſſenters 331
Defenſans, letter to — 448
Devotions, private, collection of 328
Dialogues between Titus, Timothy, and Archippus — ib.
Dibdin's School for Prejudice 321
——— Il Bondocani — ib.
——— hiſtory of the Engliſh ſtage — — 449
——— introduction to the knowledge of the claſſics — 445
Dierenſtein, the Soldier of, or Love and Mercy — 678
Dilapidations, ſix letters to the archbiſhop of Canterbury on 96

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Diſcourſes, three, on books, on ſtudy, and literary taſte – 693
Dolomieu. Sur la philoſophie mineralogique — 457
Doudouit's Latin proſody 450
Drummond's verſes, ſocial and domeſtic — 195
Dubroca's life of Touſſaint Louverture — — 214
Dutton's character of George III. 213
Dyer's poems — 121

E.

Edgeworth's eſſay on Iriſh bulls 332
Edmondſon on the opthalmia 323
Egypt, memoires ſur, two vols. 577
Elections, conſiderations on the late Weſtminſter and Middleſex 574
Electors of Great Britain, addreſs to — — 86
Ellis's remarks and precedents of proceedings in parliament 440
England and Wales, ſtatiſtical account of — 84
Englefield's walk through Southampton — 444
Enſor's principles of morality 97
Erratics, by a ſailor — 448
Eſtlin's apology for the ſabbath 206
Evans's ſequel to the ſketch of the denominations of the chriſtian world — — 695

F.

Faſhionable Friends, a comedy 677
Fenwick on practical mechanics 694
Fievées, Frederic, tranſlated 434
Finlayſon's ſermon on preaching 66
Fordyce's fourth diſſertation on fever — — 545
Foreſter, le, a novel — 559
Forreſt's reports in the exchequer 680
Foſbrooke's Britiſh monachiſm 112

PAGE

Foſter's ſermon on an eccleſiaſtical eſtabliſhment — 681
——— eſſay on the method of illuſtrating ſcripture from the relation of modern travellers in Paleſtine — 683
Fox, Mr. letter to, on his ſketch of the character of the duke of Bedford — 93
Fulton and Knight's Engliſh pronouncing dictionary — 99

G.

Gardiner's memoirs of the rev. James Garie — 445
Garie, memoirs of — ib.
Garnett's annals of philoſophy, &c. 157
Geddes on the Hebrew ſcriptures 53, 165
Gentz on the ſtate of Europe before the French revolution 403, 525, 628
——, letter from — 702
Geſſner's works, from the German 690
Gifford's Juvenal — 512, 615
Gilchriſt's introduction to the Hindoſtanee language — 93
Goldſmith's works — 295
Graves's Senilities, or ſolitary amuſements — — 568
Gregory's aſtronomy — 250
Grenville, lord, ſpeech on the convention with Ruſſia — 367
——— Homer — 664
Gwillim's acts, records, and caſes, reſpecting tithes — 13

H.

Haigh's conjugata Latina – 450
Haly's military obſervations 24
Hamilton on the marſh remittent fever — — 150
———'s, miſs, letters on the elementary principles of education, vol. ii. — 472
Haweis's ſermon on the bleſſings of peace — — 439

Henderſon's

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Henderſon's view of the adminiſtration of America — 443
Hereford, biſhop, ſermons and charges — — 493
Hippocrate. Traité des airs des eaux, et des lieux, par Coray 101
Hiſtrionade — 75
Hoare's correſpondence with the academies of Vienna and Saint Peterſburgh — 71
Hodſon's accompliſhed tutor 573
Homer's Iliad and Odyſſey, Clarendon preſs — 664
Hook's "*Anguis in herba*," a character of the church of England and her clergy — 207
Hooper's anatomical plates 678
Horace. Les œuvres par Binat 101
Horneman's travels from Cairo to Mourzouk — 225
Houlton's letter on lotteries 452
Hume on the diſeaſes of children 324
Hunter, Mrs. poems — 409

I. and J.

Jacotot. Cours de phyſique experimentale et de Chymie 103
James's military dictionary — 98
Inſurance, report on a ſecond trial reſpecting an — 209
Joſſe. El Teſoro Eſpañol — 573
Irwin's Bedouins, or Arabs of the Deſert, a comic opera — 433
Itard's account of a ſavage man 575
Juvenal, ſatire xiii. — 73
——— tranſlated by Gifford 512, 615

K.

Kenyon, lord, life and character of 94
Kollmann's vindication of his guide to the thorough-baſs 487

L.

Lacretelle. Œuvres diverſes 217
Lambert's ſermons — 682

PAGE

Lavater's phyſiognomical ſketches 156
Lawrence's Love, an allegory 676
Layard's ſermon at the Magdalen 560
Lebedoff's grammar of Eaſt-Indian dialects — 453
Lee's facts reſpecting inoculation of the cow-pox — 322
Lepidopterorum Britannicorum prodromus — 211
Levett's aſtronomical and geographical leſſons — 216
Letters of the dead — 87
Lettſom's hints — 690
——— apology — ib.
Lewis's Alfonſo, King of Caſtile, a tragedy — — 558
Leybourn on the conſtruction of triangles — — 574
London, biſhop, lectures on St. Matthew's goſpel 125, 298
London, picture of, in 1802 447
Love, the Sorrows of, a poem 318
Louis XVI. Naſcita, carattere, &c. di — — 92
Lowell's thankſgiving ſermon 328

M.

Mackenzie's voyages from Montreal — 465, 645
Mackenzie's Sermons — 594
Magee's Sermon on the death of the earl of Clare — 201
Malay tongue, grammar of 454
Malcolm's hiſtory of London 504
Maltby's illuſtrations of the Chriſtian religion — — 44
Manby's fugitive ſketches of Clifton hot-wells — 449
Manuſcrits de la bibliotheque nationale, tome vi. — 103
Maurice's modern hiſtory of Hindoſtan, vol. i. part 1. — 1
——— vol. i. part 2. — — 479
Melville's White Knight 322
Methodiſts, chronological hiſtory of — — 83

Methodiſt,

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Methodiſt, a poem — 319
Metrical miſcellany — 258
Meyer, voyage en Italie 454
Michaelis's introduction to the New Teſtament, by Marſh, vol. iii. and iv. — 667
Middleton's ſermon — 681
Military college, obſervations on 216
Milton's Comus, by Polidori 676
Mirbel. Hiſt. naturelle des plantes 581
Moliere, etudes ſur — 460
Montucla, hiſt. des mathematiques 217
Moral Legacy, or ſimple Narrations — — 677
Morgan. Remarks on his comparative view of the public finances — — 329
Morrice's art of teaching 450
——— on the ſcience of teaching 693
——— on brewing — 453
———'s friend of women 571
Moſes, the life of — 678
Mounier on the influence of philoſophers, freemaſons, and the illuminati — — 134
Munnings on drilling and protecting turnips — 521

N.

Naturelle hiſtoire. Cours complet — — 218
Natural hiſtory, elements of, vol. ii. 549
Necker, Mad. extrait des manuſcrits — — 457
Niſbett on the coming of the Meſſiah — — 541
Norden, voyage d'Egypte et de nubie, tome iii. — 337
Norris's ſermon on the influence of female character on ſociety 204
Novairi hiſtoire de Sicile, trad. par Cauſſin — — 460

PAGE

O.

Opie, Mrs. poems — 553
Otaheitean iſlands, hiſtory of 692
Oxford, bp, primary charge 268

P.

Pallas's travels in the ſouthern parts of Ruſſia, vol. ii. Germ. 461
Paolino's voyage to the Eaſt-Indies — — 345
Paper money, not deficiency in harveſts, &c. the cauſes of the ſufferings of the people 688
Parent's friend — — 98
Paris, a few days in — 693
Parker on gates and wickets 451
Partridge's ſermon on making a will — — 436
——— thankſgiving ſermon 561
——— ſermon on old age 682
Paternal preſent — — 200
Paul's report to the national inſtitute of France, on his artificial mineral waters — 435
Peace, the probable effects of, on commerce — — 441
Peake on the law of evidence 427
Pearſon's ſermon on the ſin of ſchiſm — — 202
Peter's two ſermons at Dominica 563
Pfaff on Brown's ſyſtem of medicine, tranſlated by Richardſon 679
Phatime et Zoroe — 77
Philoſophical Tranſactions for 1801, part ii. — 272, 380
Pic-nic miſcellany — 575
Pindar's Iſland of Innocence 319
Platt on the efficacy of oxygene in the cure of ſyphilis — 679
Plumptre's Chriſtian guide 440
Plutarch, oeuvres par Amyot 100
Poems and ballads — 198
Poems on muſic, &c. — 559
Poetical Regiſter for 1801 171

Poetical

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Poetical Sketch — 197
Poetry, by the author of Geber 432
Poggio Bracciolini, life of, by Shepherd — — 374
Poor, obſervations on the maintenance of, at Kingſton upon Hull — — 87
——, obſervations on the preſent ſtate of — — 88
—— laws, plan to facilitate the execution of, &c. — 89
Popham's extracts from the Pentateuch, compared with Greek and Latin authors — 289
Porcupine's works — 212
Poulter's charity-ſchool ſermon — — 205
Pradt's les trois ages des colonies 696
—— l'etat de la culture en France — — 699
Prieſt's travels in America 334
Pſalms, new verſion of, by Cottle 197
Public credit in danger 565
Pye's verſes in the ſummer and autumn of 1801 — 69
Pye's provincial coins and tokens 95

Q.

Quadrupeds, the hiſtory of 693

R.

Rainsford's memoirs at St. Domingo in 1799 — 212
Randolph's ſermons in Advent 83
Rees on the primary ſymptoms of lues venerea — — 434
Regicide, an heroic poem, extract from — — 199
Regnier's ſtate of Egypt after the battle of Heliopolis — 94
———. Remarks on his narrative of the campaign in Egypt 691

PAGE

Reid's addreſs to Britiſh ſubjects 330
Render's travels through Germany 335
Reuſs's repertorium commentationum à ſocietatibus literariis editarum — — 461
Rochefoucault's oeuvres morales 100
Roberts's harmony of the epiſtles 419
Roſciad, a poem — 200
Roſe's conſiderations on the civil liſt — — 211
Rotherham's eſſay on faith 683
Ruptures, appendix reſpecting 325
Ruſſell's multum in parvo 214
——— hints to legiſlators 215
Ruſſell on the morbid affections of the knee-joint — 500

S.

Satire, the ſchool for — 556
Sauer's expedition to the north of Ruſſia — — 32
Saunders's obſervations of the poor laws — — 90
Sawrey on the venereal poiſon 80
Scotland, the Complaynt of, publiſhed by J. Leyden — 8
Scottiſh Poems of the 16th century — — — 315
Scott's, Sir W. ſpeech on non-reſidence, &c. of the clergy 261
Scum uppermoſt — 555
Senilities, or ſolitary amuſements 568
Serle on landed property 216
Service's Caledonian Herd Boy 320
Shepherd on the common prayer, vol. ii. — — 308
Shepherd's life of Poggio Bracciolini — — 374
Slave trade, addreſs to the Iriſh members on the — 442
Sotheby's Oberon, a maſk 62
Stanger on the means of ſuppreſſing fever — 564

Steer's

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Steer's Elegy on the late duke of Bedford — — 321
Steiglitz's archæology of the architecture of the Greeks and Romans. Germ. — 461
Suffolk freeholders. Addreſs to the independent freeholders 443

T.

Tales, eight hiſtorical — 678
Taprell's ſermon on the peace 205
Templeton, William, the Strolling Player — — 560
Thankſgiving ſermon at Marſham, Kent — — 438
Thirlwall's ſermon on worldly power — — 564
Thomas's oeuvres poſthumes 336
——— modern practice of phyſic — — — 397
Thornton on the cow-pox 77
Tiſchbien's figures d'Homere 580
Tithes, brief hints on, to Kentiſh farmers — — 572
Truchſeſs, count, propoſals for a public gallery of pictures in London — — 335
Tytler's elements of general hiſtory — — 175

V. and U.

Vielth's pleaſing preceptor 214
Vanoven on the Jewiſh poor 566
Vollemert's friend of women, tranſlated by Morrice 571
Vince's hydroſtatics — 413
——— elements of aſtronomy 655
Vincent's ſermon before the houſe of commons, June 1, 1802 81
Vitruvii architectura à Rode 461
Union in the church, a call for 205

W.

Wakefield's inveſtigation of Morgan on the public finances 354

PAGE

Walſh's narrative of the expedition to Holland — 146
Walker's univerſal gazetteer 95, 572
——— fragments of letters 571
Wallace, or the Vale of Elleſlie 673
Wall's thankſgiving ſermon 327
Waſhington's letter to Arthur Young — — 686
Watkins's ſacred biography 440
Watſon's table of intereſt 695
Watts's, Miſs, poems and tranſlations — — 196
Welſh Legends — — 321
Weſton's remarks on the poor laws — — 89
——— ſpecimen of the conformity of the European languages with the oriental — 641
White's compendium of the veterinary art — — 436
Whitehouſe's thankſgiving ſermon 439
Wickin's preface to the Bible 205
Wilkinſon's new method of curing gonorrhœa — — 80
Williams's thankſgiving ſermon 327
Williams, Joſeph, extracts from his diary — — 448
Willyams's voyage up the Mediterranean — 152
Wilſon's hiſtory of the Britiſh expedition to Egypt — 585
Wolff's ſketches and obſervations on a tour through a part of the ſouth of Europe — 48
Wood's optics — 533
Woodland companion 577
Wordſworth's ſix letters to Granville Sharp — 15
Wrangham's poems — 675
Wright, lady, Elegy to the memory of — — 200

Y.

Xenophonteum lexicon 103